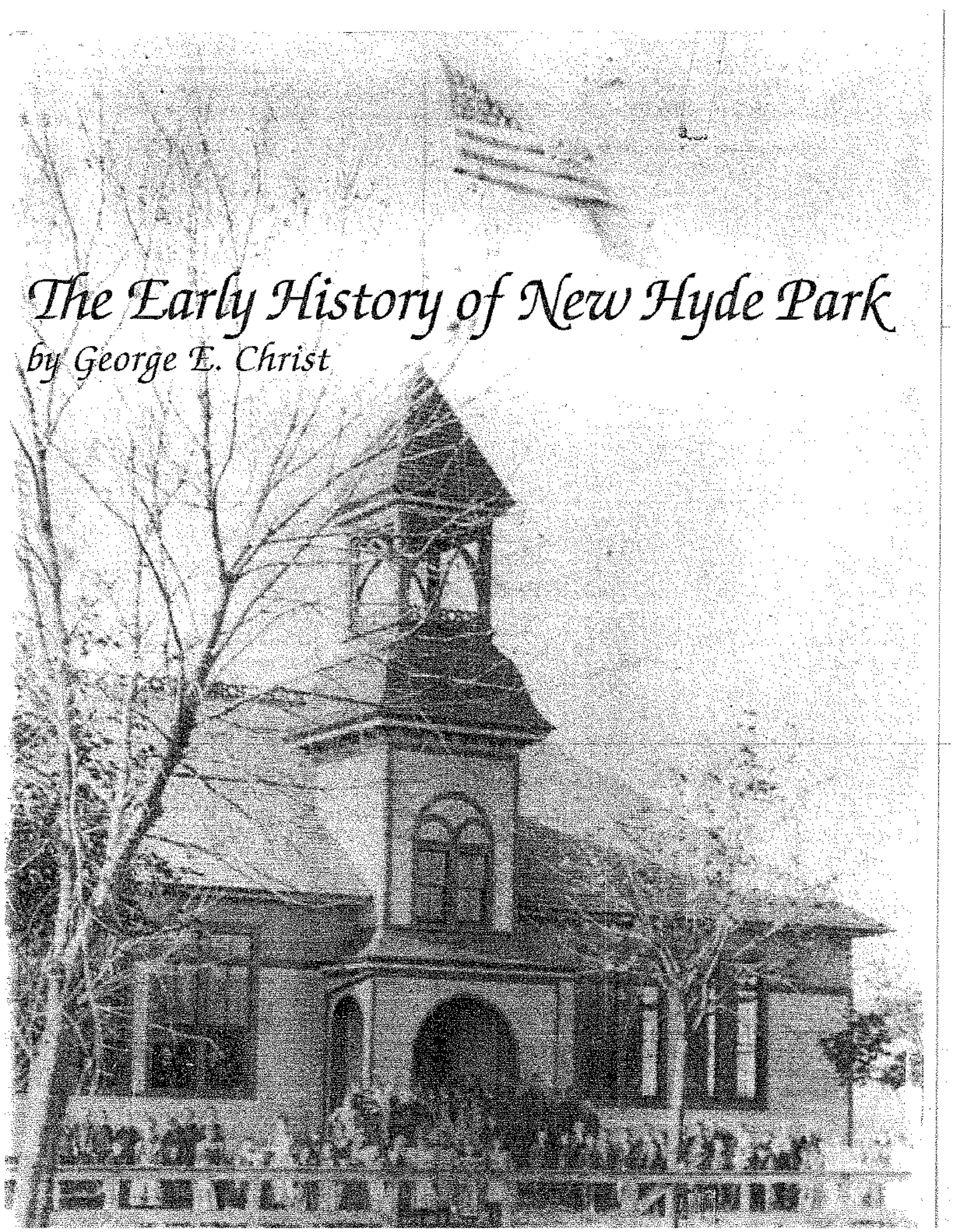
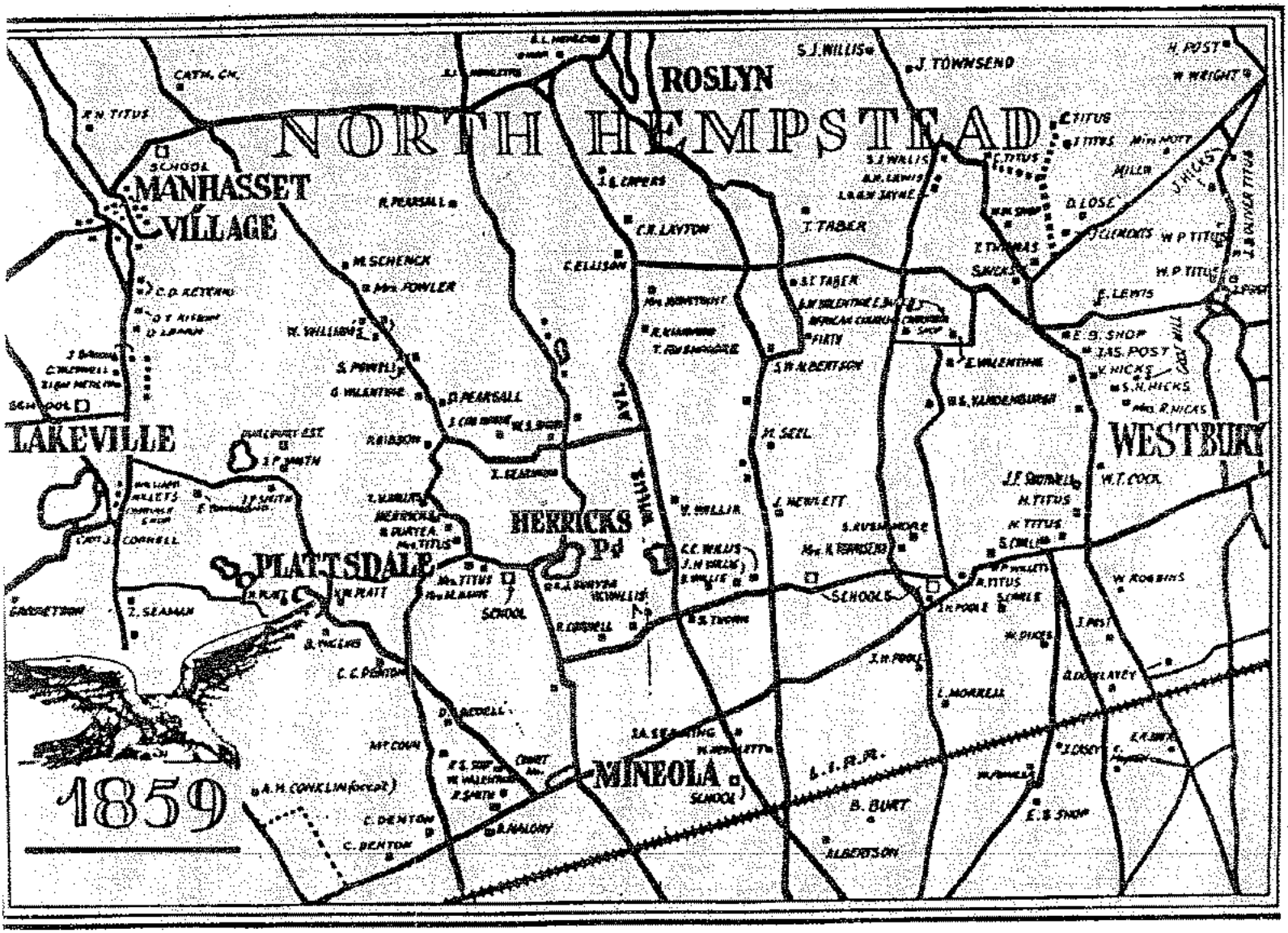
The Early History of New Hyde Park

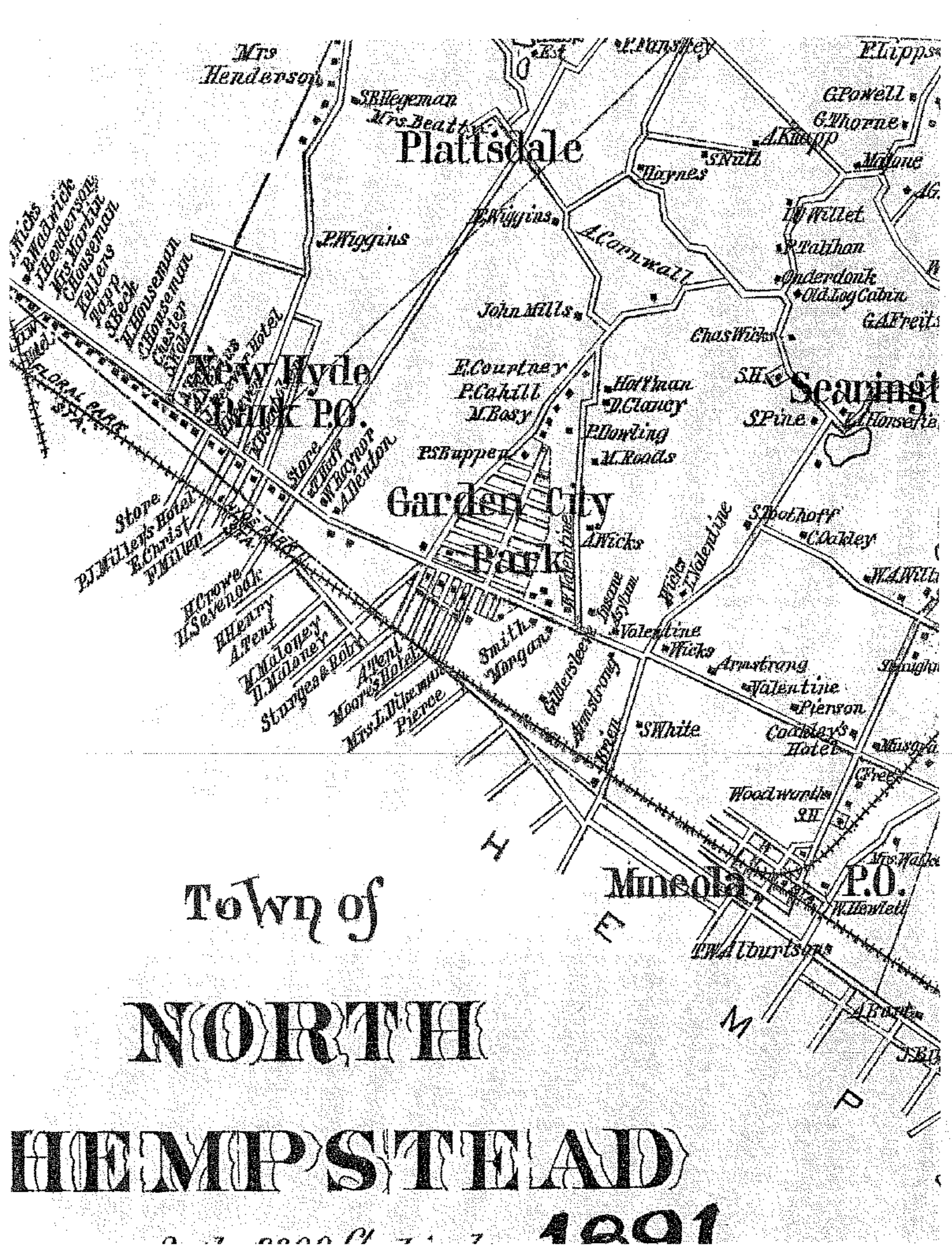
by George E. Christ

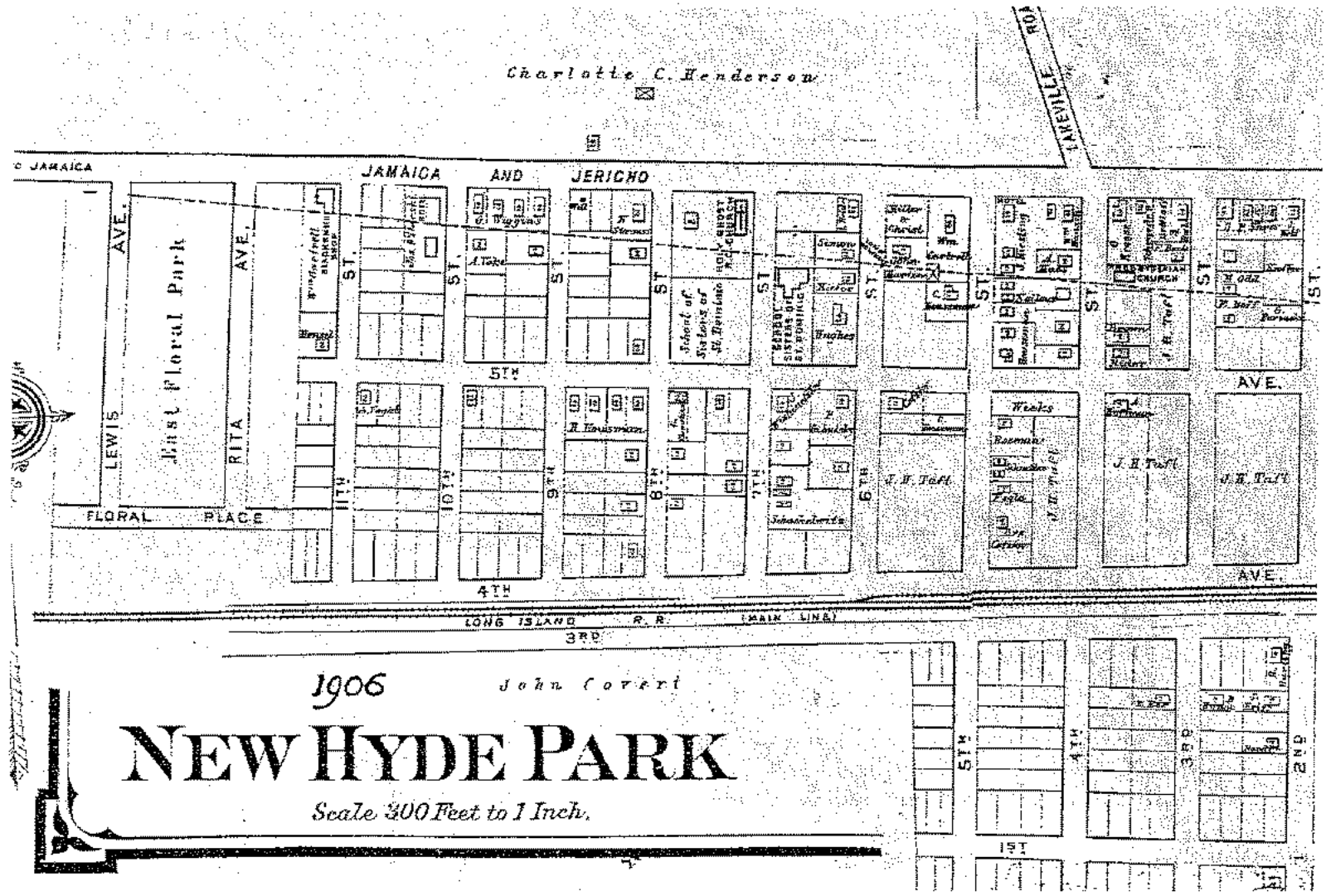


1901 - New Hyde Park's baseball team. At the turn of the century when New Hyde Park was known as Hyde Park, many of our now pioneer residents were members of the local baseball team. Maybe you can recognise some of them as they are today, and as they looked 51 years ago. Left to Right - Standing: John Joerg, pitcher; Edward Klein, 3rd base; William Brown, center field; Lawrence Sommers, right field; Willie Sommers, left field; George Joerg, shortstop (deceased); and Philip Krug, catcher. Seated: Joseph Buck, 2nd base; Joseph Klein, center field; and Julius Riedel, 1st base. It is remarkable that after a span of more than half a century, all members of the above team are still living, with exception of one (noted). Photo and Caption: From 1952 article courtesy of Elaine Joerg Mangen.



The earliest map found of our area. Few of the familiar roads had been laid out. Notice that the Denton Family was well represented.


Mrs Henderson
S.Billegeman
Mrs.Beatty
Plattsdale
P.Tipps
G.Powell
G.Thorne
A.Kluepp
S.Nutt
Haynes
Malone
P.Wiggins
A.Cornwall
Willet
P.Talihan
Onderdonk
Old Log Cabin
John Mills
Chas Wicks
E.Courtney
P.Cahill
M.Basy
Hoffman
D.Clancy
P.Bowling
M.Roads
PS Bappert
New Hyde Park P.O.
Garden City Park
Seaingt
S.Pine
Store
P.J.Miller's Hotel
E.Christ
F.Miller
H.Crowe
H.Severnoak
H.Henry
A.Tenl
H.Maloney
D.Maloney
Sturges & Robt
Allen's Moore's Hotel
Miss L.Wiseman
Pierce
Smith
Morgan
A.Wicks
Wicks
Valentine
S.Bothoff
C.Oakley
Armstrong
Pierson
S.White
Cockley's Hotel
Woodworth
S.H.
Mineola
P.O.
W.Hewlett
E.W.Albertson
A.Burtis
Town of
NORTH
HEMPSTEAD
1891

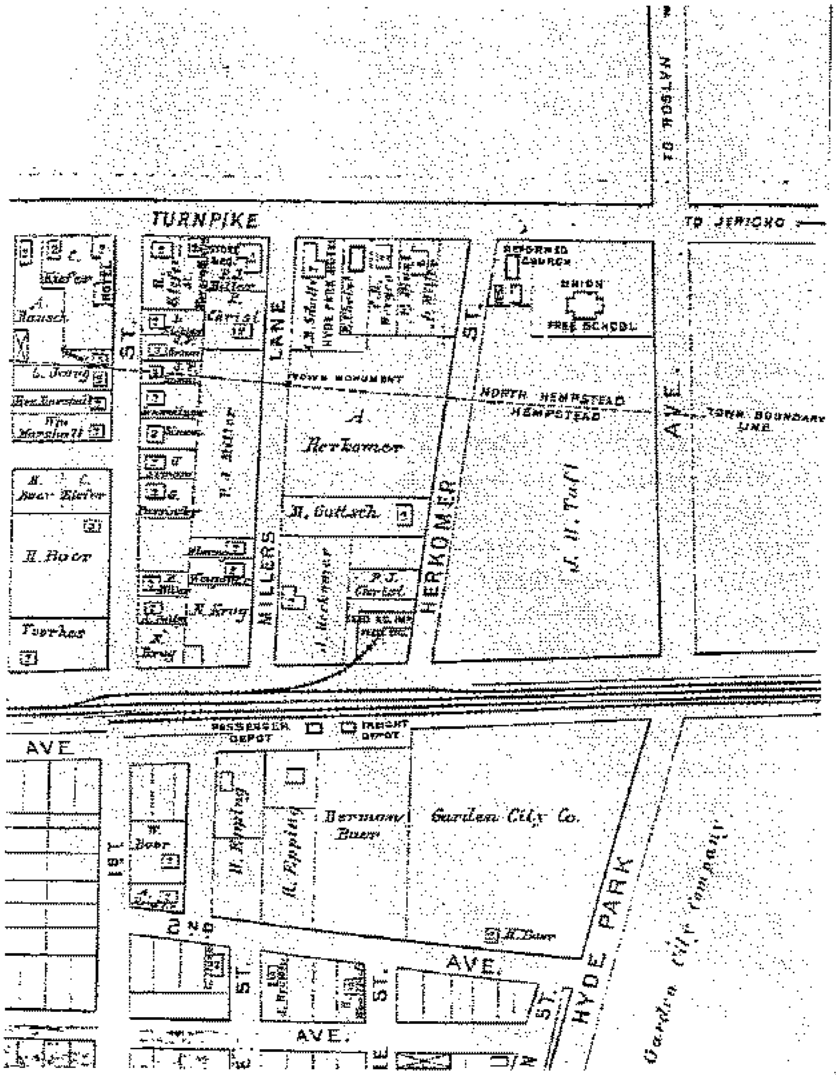


annoyed with all the raucousness, she just poured a pail of water on the revelers who were gathered outside, just having left the inn of her brother-in-law next door. Well, women put up with it. What they were not willing to put up with was the loss of money. Men didn't spend only what they had in their pockets, but charged and squandered in this way future earnings. They went into debt, and at home women had a hard time making ends meet. It happened all over the country and that's when women started to be activists. They wanted control by law of the manufacture and sale of liquor. That movement was called "The Temperance Movement." In some states there were already "dry laws" on the books by the middle of the last century, but it was only after the First World War in 1919 that national prohibition became law. That was the 18th Amendment to the Constitution and was called the "Volstead Act."

Look at the 1869 and 1906 maps . You can see <u>the little hamlet became a village.</u>

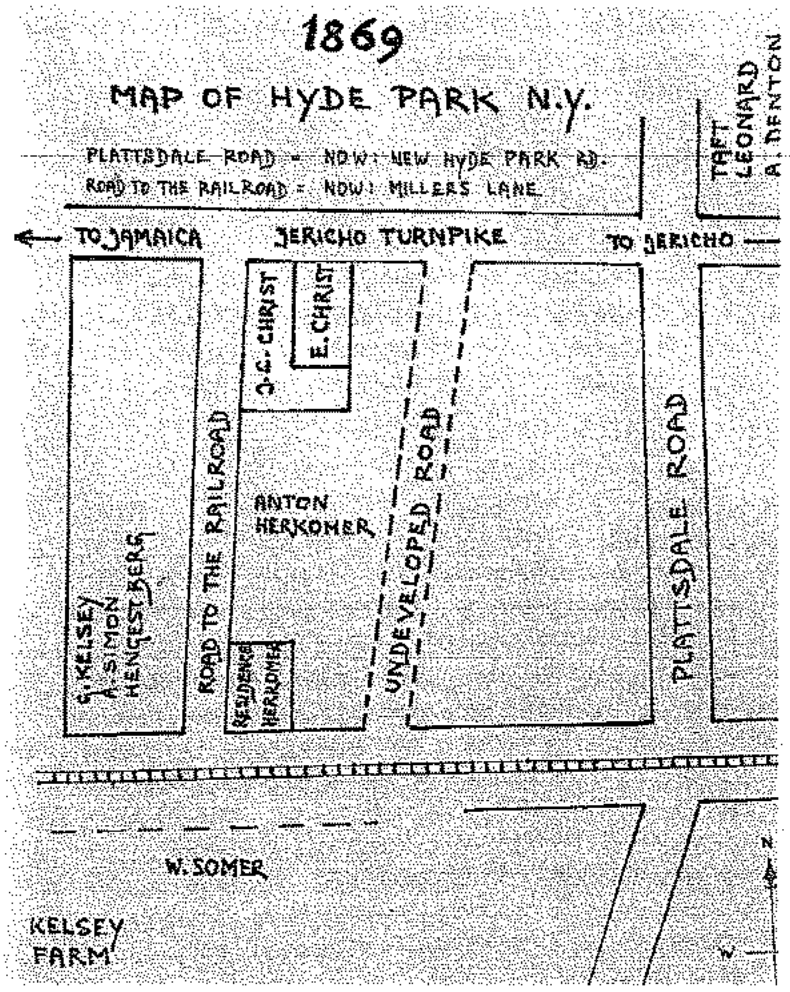
And the lessons we learned? I will mention just a few, but you can come up with many more.

1. Men and women have to work hard to make a living, regardless of whether they work at home or commute or whether they wear a business suit or overalls.
2. Since ancient times, people succumb to the sickness of alcoholism.
3. We have now many labor saving devices which make housework easier. Women now work outside the home, but don't have fewer responsibilities.
4. The greatest change took place in the life of the children. Then, the emphasis was mostly on physical work; now, it is on education and book learning. Then, children just had to obey; now, they are encouraged to reason for themselves.



(left) 1906 Map of New Hyde Park.
Courtesy: George E. Christ, Historian:
Village of New Hyde Park

(below) 1869 Map of New Hyde Park
by Helene Christ.



But the most striking difference was in their family life. Not only were their mothers at home, but also they could observe their fathers at work. They were surrounded by aunts, uncles, cousins and the whole community acted like an extended family.

This is the History of Your Village, and I greatly hope you will enjoy reading it.

George E. Christ

1 - The Denton Family

Contributed by Mrs. C. Henry

Up until the middle of this century the interior of Long Island was scarcely populated. The few settlers who lived here were mostly farmers. The climate and soil were suited for agriculture and several farmers in our area made a good living.

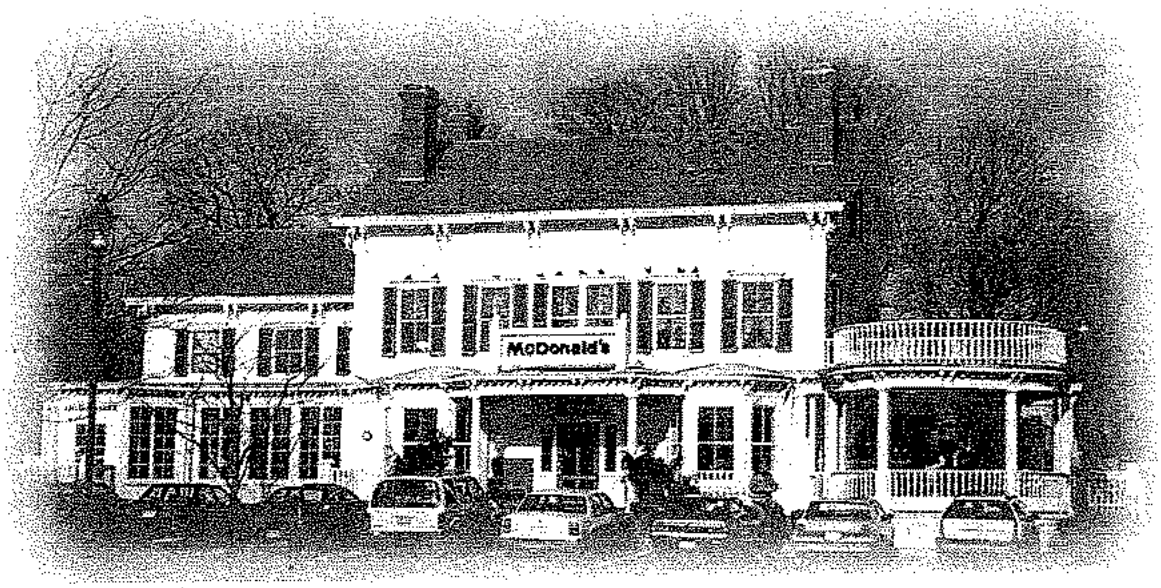
One of the oldest families who lived in what was called Hyde Park were the Dentons. There were other families and though we know their names, we don't know much else about them.

The Dentons can trace their roots all the way back to 1670 when the Reverend Richard settled here as a preacher at the Episcopal Church in Hempstead. We know his son Samuel (1717) was a farmer and his grandson Joseph bought a farm in North Hempstead in 1795. At the same time he built his homestead, a modest clapboard house, which became home to the Dentons until the late 19th century when it, along with the farm, was first leased to Charles Hoffmann and in 1928 sold to a developer. The house was demolished, but we are fortunate to have a drawing of it.

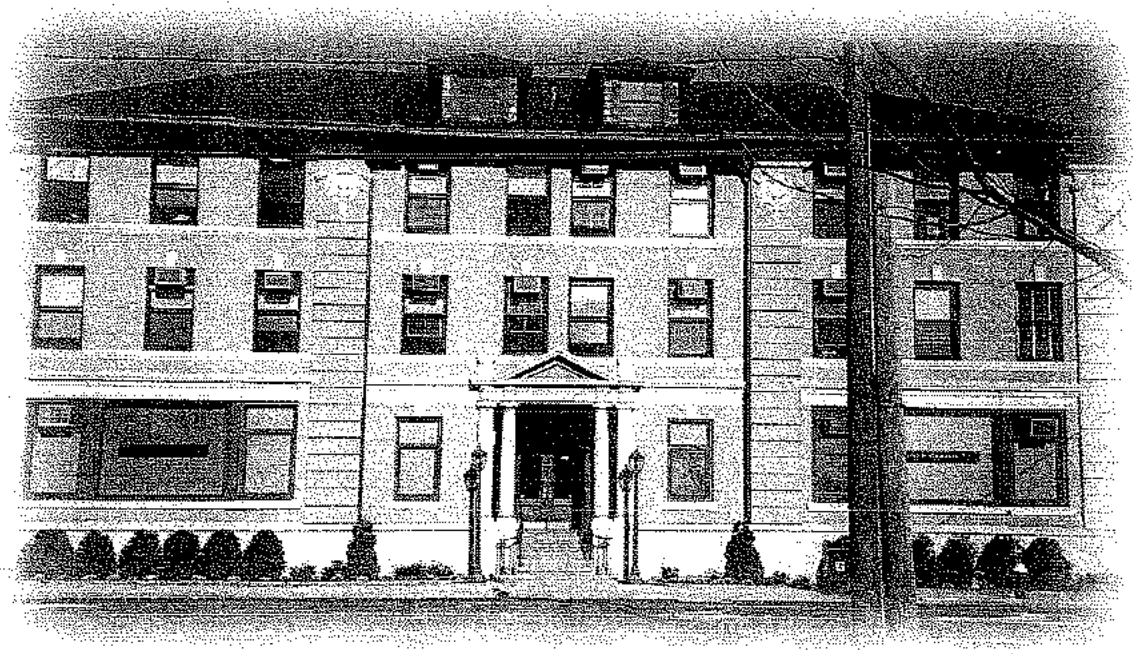
Joseph worked the farm until his son Charles took over. Charles was one of Joseph's eight children. He married Louisa Leonard, the daughter of the neighboring farmer and the two farms were combined, and Joseph Denton now managed 170 acres of land. Times were good and the Dentons became prosperous. They remained farmers, Charles and Louisa had six children, and their son Augustus was the next owner of the farm.

1795
DENTON FAMILY'S ORIGINAL HOMESTEAD

Original residence of Augustus and Eugene W. Denton.



Denton residence converted to McDonald's.



1996 - Denton Building built in 1907.
Corner of Old Country Road and Mineola Boulevard, Mineola, New York

As a resident of New Hyde Park, Eugene Denton favored the incorporation of the village and was a member of the committee. Lawyers, insurance agents and bankers encouraged the creation of various government entities and departments. Insurance was to be sold, bond issues to be voted on and all work was done by lawyers. Eugene Denton with all his prestige and experience thought of himself as the most prominent citizen of the area and, as such, being entitled to a prestigious job. But squabbling soon started. For the second time in his career, he had an opponent in a Christ. This time it was Philip's son Marcus.

Marcus Christ was young with hardly any experience, but he could match Eugene's education, even if not his ancestry. He was a graduate of Harvard with a pleasant personality, and his family was well liked.

Two political parties were formed to compete in the election for the village government. One was the citizens party and the other, founded by a Mr. McMannes, was the public affairs party. Eugene Denton joined Mr. McMannes' group. There were so many disagreements that the two factions could not come to a compromise. Eugene Denton withdrew completely and did not want his property to be part of the Incorporated Village. When the election was held, Marcus and his party were victorious. New Hyde Park became an Incorporated Village September 15, 1927. Eugene withdrew from public service and lived quietly in Garden City to the end of his life.

Originally Herkomer Homestead, later home of Eva. J. Simon. Miller's Lane

Eva J. Simon Passes On

School Teacher and Civic Worker for Many Years

The sudden death of Miss Eva J. Simon on Tuesday evening, from an attack of heart failure, was a shock to her many friends in this community.

Miss Simon was born in New Hyde Park 62 years ago, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Simon, pioneer settlers.

She was one of the original members of the Sunday school established before the organization of the First Reformed Church, later becoming a teacher in the primary department, and was for several years superintendent of the Sunday school.

She was a charter member of the church upon its organization, where she worshipped and continued active in its affairs until the time of her demise.

February 5, 1935

After her graduation at the Jamaica High School, Miss Simon taught a school in Springfield. She then became a teacher in the old school on New Hyde Park Road, and when the new school was built on Jericho Turnpike she taught there for some years.

Many of our older residents recall the days when they sat under her tutorage, and without an exception, they testify to her worth as a teacher, and appreciate the kindly advice and assistance given to them.

Twenty-two years ago she became a teacher in the Mineola school where she gave efficient service until the day of her death.

She was always interested in civic affairs, and was one of the organizers of the Women's Civic Association, and for many years has been the president of the U. S. Flag Association.

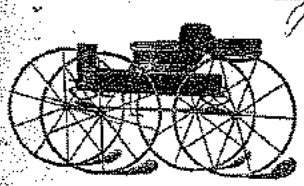
Funeral services will be held today at two o'clock, at her late home, where she lived with her sister-in-law, Mrs. Antoinett Simon, in the old Herkomer mansion, at the corner of Millers Lane and First Avenue, opposite the railroad station, the Rev. David C. Weidner officiating. Interment will follow in the family plot in the Elmont Presbyterian Cemetery.

Two brothers, John Simon, of Queens, and George Simon, of Westchester, survive her.

1900 - Buggy made by Emanuel J. Christ, Schultz's New Hyde Park Hotel.
Photo: Marcus G. Christ Collection

New Hyde Park, L.I. May 1 1896

Mr J P Smith Estate



E. CHRIST,

—Manufacturer of and Dealer in—

ALL KINDS OF WAGONS, BUGGIES, HARNESS, &c.,
STOVES, HEATERS, RANGES,
FARMING IMPLEMENTS, PAINTS, OILS & VARNISHES; BOOTS & SHOES, FLOUR & FEED.

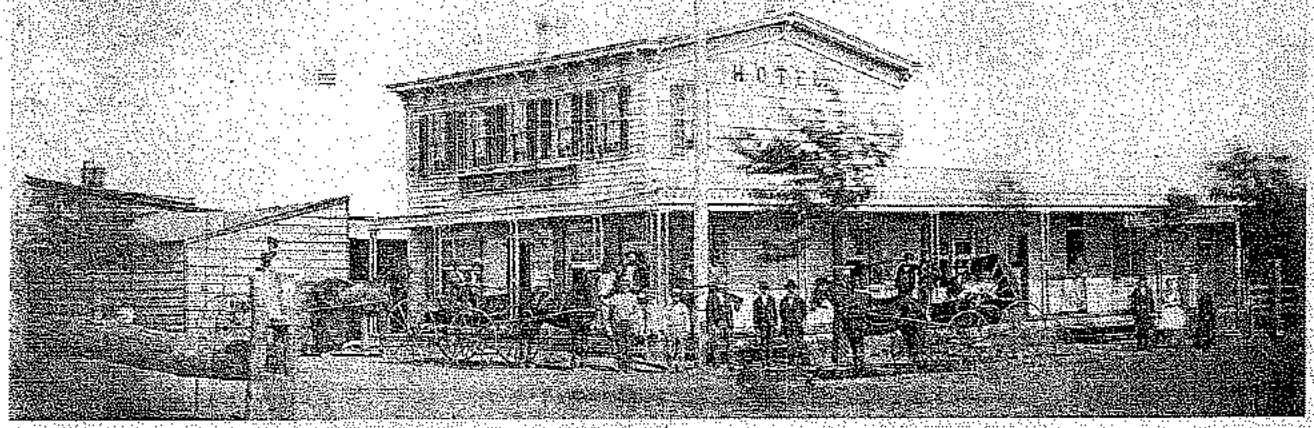
New Hyde Park Steam Mill. **Horse-Shoeing and Jobbing.**

Jan	10	2 Handles in & Axes		50
Febr	1	4 Lever Shoes		1 50
Apr	16	4 new		1 50
	25	2 old Shoes		40
				3 90

Paid E Christ

1896 invoice from Emanuel J. Christ.

Hotel von Anton Herkomer
Christine Jaeger 1876 war
Vater v. Herm. Herkomer 1900



The hotel purchased by John Christ from Anton Herkomer in 1868.
1300 Jericho Turnpike
Photo: Marcus G. Christ Collection

1884 - John G. Christ's Hyde Park Hotel.
1300 Jericho Turnpike
Photo: Marcus G. Christ Collection

4 - Emanuel Christ Family

After settling in Hyde Park, Emanuel kept on working with his hands and became successful even though he didn't measure success by the amount of money he accumulated. Although at times the going was rough. There was the great depression in 1873 which lasted until 1877 and the neighboring farmers, who patronized Christ had no money to pay their bills. The farmers on the north side of Jericho Turnpike were C. Kelsy, P. Wiggins, S. Hegeman, W. Ingraham, Taft and C. Denton. Food was no problem as everyone kept a kitchen garden, along with ducks, geese and pigs.

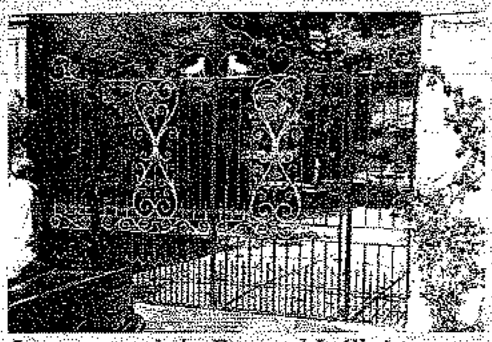
It was hard going for Emanuel. He too had to meet his obligations to his creditors and to his growing family. In 1873 he was already the proud father of 5 children. All in all 12 children were born to Emanuel and Elizabeth. Two died at child birth, but 10 survived, thrived, became responsible adults and all lived well past their sixties, which is almost a miracle, considering the sanitary conditions of the time. There were setbacks: the fire in 1880 and another depression in 1890 coupled with a drought. Through frugality and back breaking hard work, Emanuel managed to expand his business. In addition to remaining a blacksmith, he became a manufacturer and dealer in wagons and buggies and sold harness, stoves and other farm implements. He also ran a sawmill and had a general store right in his house where Elizabeth was helping out.

Emanuel was very much involved in the community and cared about the well being of its inhabitants. As he was helped, so in turn he helped others. He taught his children hard work and self reliance. He passed away in 1908.

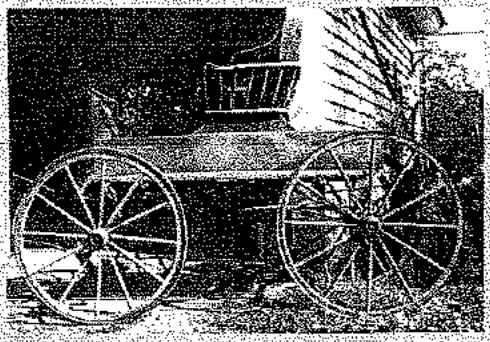
Emanuel Christ
1840-1908

Elizabeth Christ
1845-1934

1910 - Elizabeth Christ in front of her General Store.
1310 Jericho Turnpike

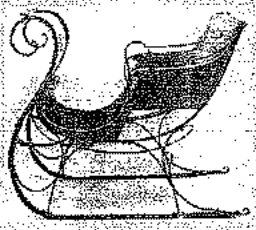


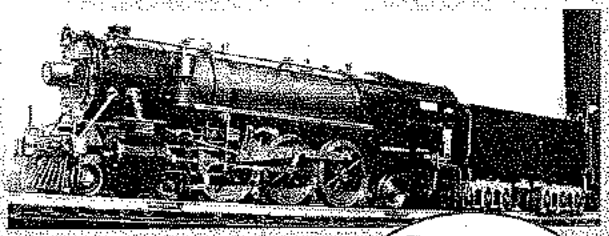
Iron gate made by Emanuel J. Christ
at the estate of W. R. Grace.
Old Westbury, NY



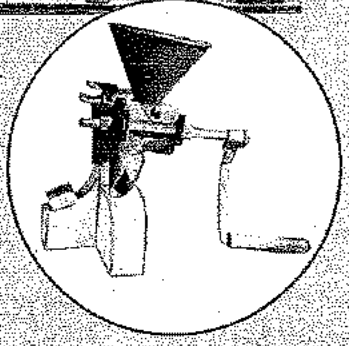
Buggy and sleigh built by Emanuel J. Christ.

A light sleigh, "a cutter."

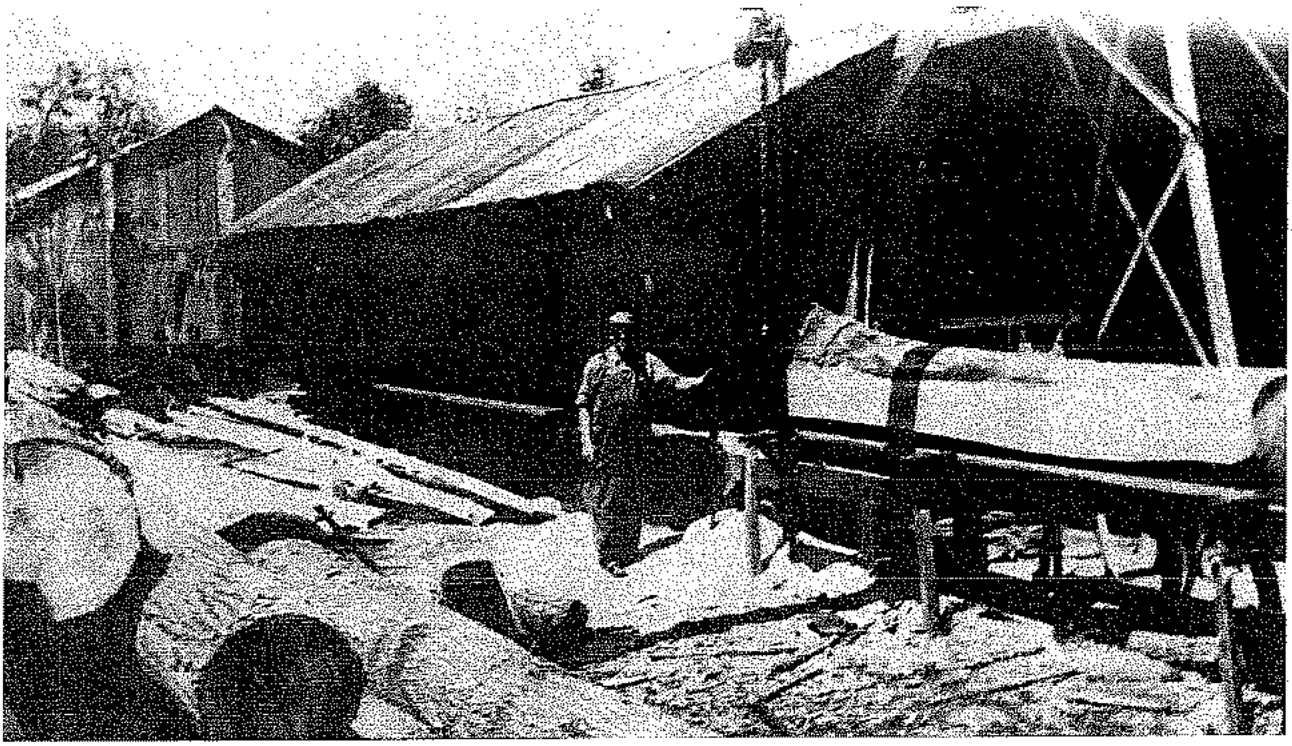




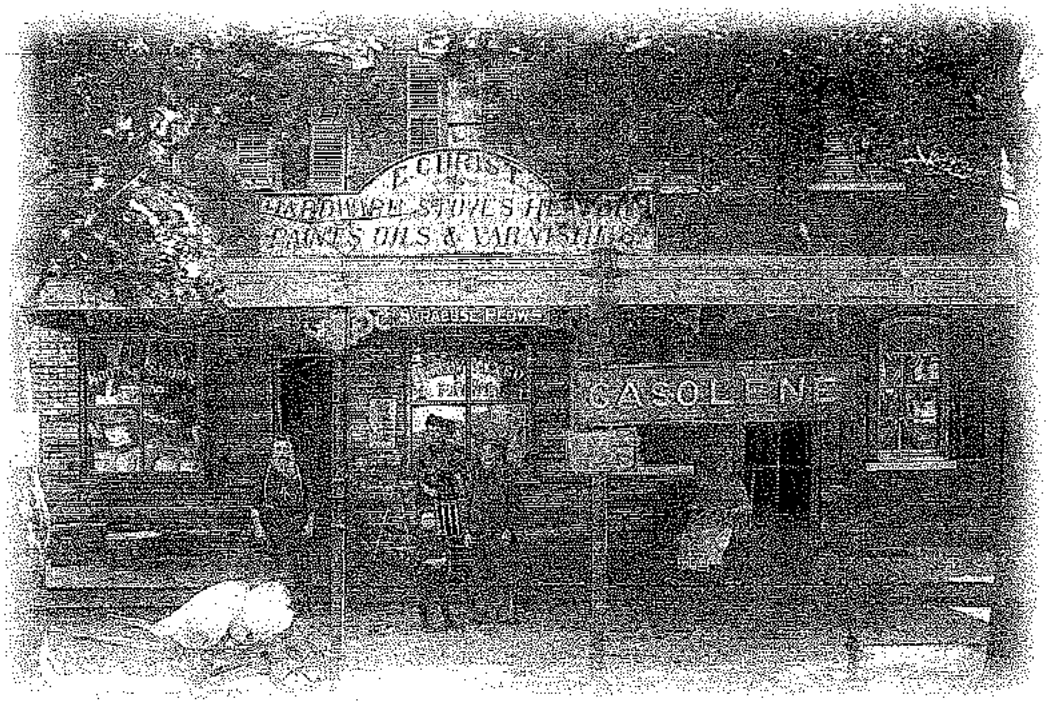
Model steam locomotive
built by Emanuel J. Christ.
Hempstead, NY (1930s)



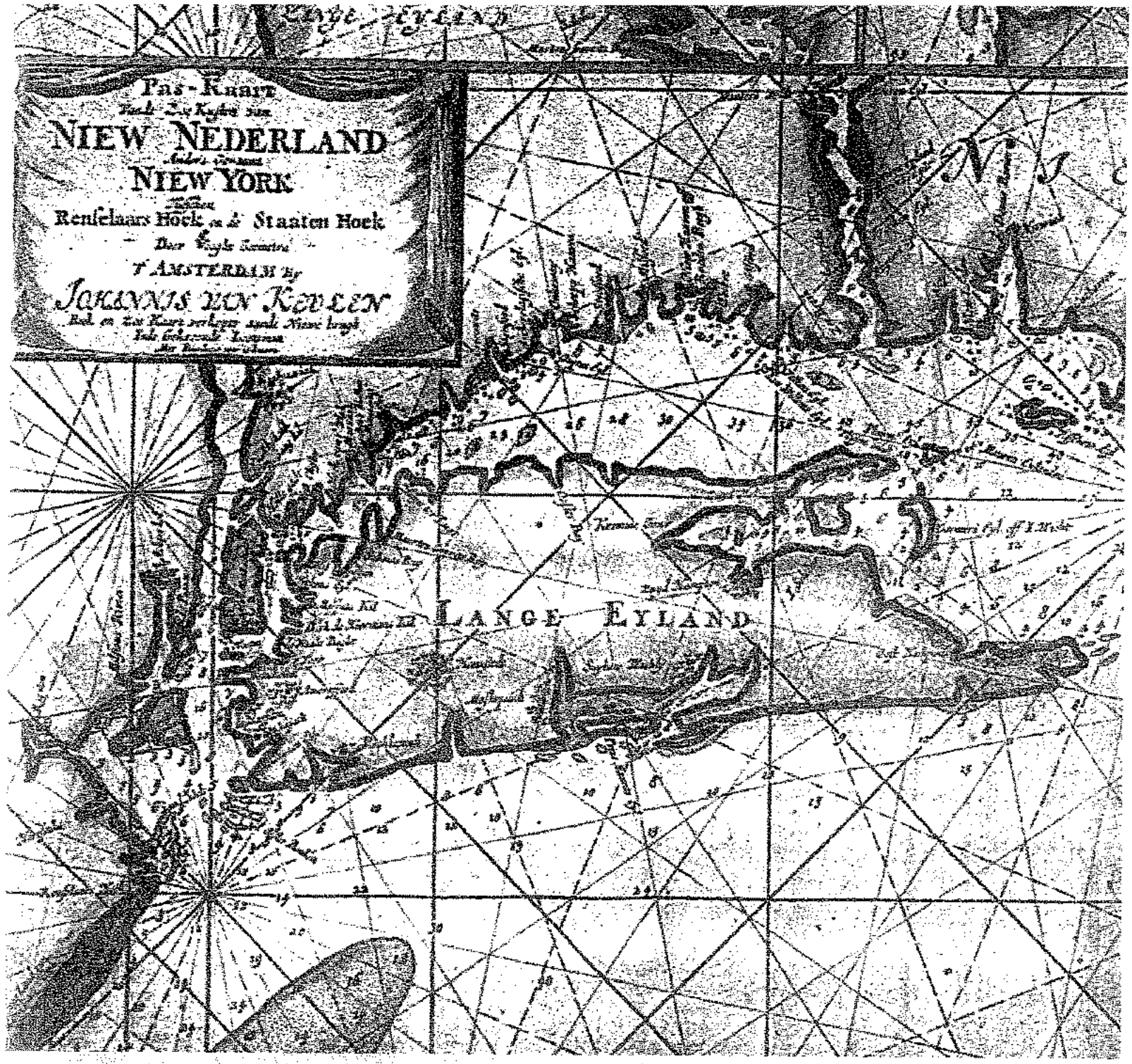
Coffee grinder made by Emanuel J. Christ.



Homemade sawmill built by Emanuel J. Christ.
1310 Jericho Turnpike



1906 - Emanuel J. Christ residence and hardware store.

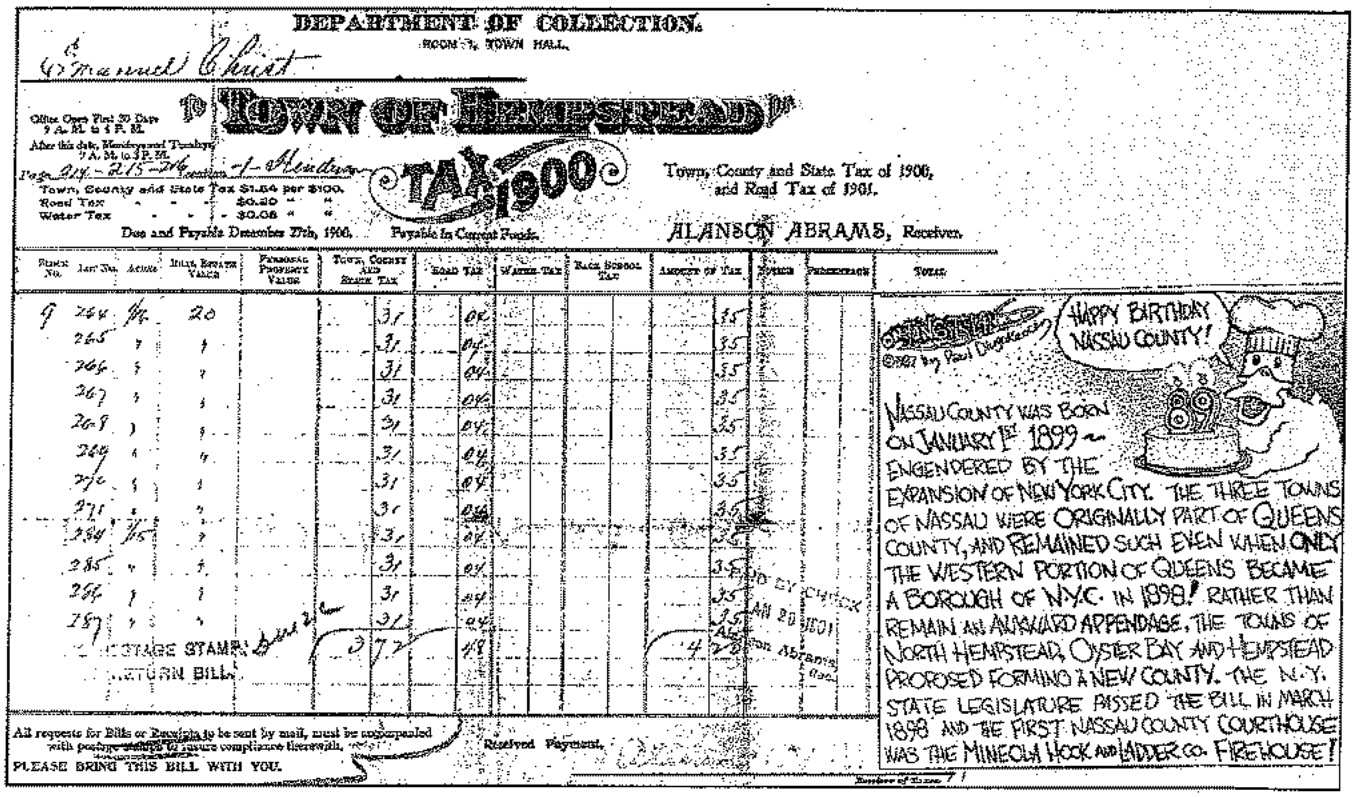


This 1668 map by Dutch cartographer Johannis Van Keulin is one of 80 featured in the exhibit "Long Island Maps and Their Makers" in Cold Spring Harbor.

The Early History of New Hyde Park

by George E. Christ

Appreciation to Mayor Warren Tackenberg and the Trustees—Florence Lisanti, Bill Fischl, Frank Komornik, and Bob Seldomridge—who appointed me Historian of the Village of New Hyde Park.



DEPARTMENT OF COLLECTION.
ROOM 7, TOWN HALL.

Emanuel Christ

TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD

Office Open First 20 Days 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. After this date, Mondays and Tuesdays 9 A. M. to 3 P. M.

Page 214-215-216 Section 1 Block

TAX 1900

Town, County and State Tax of 1900, and Road Tax of 1901.

Town, County and State Tax $1.54 per $100.
Road Tax - - - $0.20 " "
Water Tax - - - $0.08 " "

Due and Payable December 27th, 1900. Payable in Current Funds.

ALANSON ABRAMS, Receiver.

Block No.	Lot No.	Acres	Real Estate Value	Personal Property Value	Town, County and State Tax	Road Tax	Water Tax	Rock School Tax	Amount of Tax	Notice	Percentage	Total
9	264	½	20		31	04			35			
	265	"	"		31	04			35			
	266	"	"		31	04			35			
	267	"	"		31	04			35			
	268	"	"		31	04			35			
	269	"	"		31	04			35			
	270	"	"		31	04			35			
	271	"	"		31	04			35			
	284	½	"		31	04			35			
	285	"	"		31	04			35			
	286	"	"		31	04			35			
	287	"	"		31	04			35			
	STAGE STAMP				3 72	48			4 20			
	RETURN BILL											

All requests for Bills or Receipts to be sent by mail, must be accompanied with postage stamps to insure compliance therewith.

PLEASE BRING THIS BILL WITH YOU.

Received Payment,

Number of Notice 7

HAPPY BIRTHDAY NASSAU COUNTY!
©1987 by Paul Dugdale
89
NASSAU COUNTY WAS BORN ON JANUARY 1ST 1899 ~ ENGENDERED BY THE EXPANSION OF NEW YORK CITY. THE THREE TOWNS OF NASSAU WERE ORIGINALLY PART OF QUEENS COUNTY, AND REMAINED SUCH EVEN WHEN ONLY THE WESTERN PORTION OF QUEENS BECAME A BOROUGH OF N.Y.C. IN 1898! RATHER THAN REMAIN AN AWKWARD APPENDAGE, THE TOWNS OF NORTH HEMPSTEAD, OYSTER BAY AND HEMPSTEAD PROPOSED FORMING A NEW COUNTY. THE N.Y. STATE LEGISLATURE PASSED THE BILL IN MARCH 1898 AND THE FIRST NASSAU COUNTY COURTHOUSE WAS THE MINEOLA HOOK AND LADDER CO. FIREHOUSE!

Town, county and state tax of 1900 and road tax of 1901.

ELIZABETH CHRIST DIES IN 89TH YEAR

Mother of Trustee George Christ of New Hyde Park.

New Hyde Park, Feb. 16.—Mrs. Elizabeth Christ, mother of Village Trustee George Christ and a resident of this village for 66 years, died Wednesday in her home on the Jericho turnpike. She was 88 years old.

Funeral services will be conducted tomorrow afternoon in the home by the Rev. David C. Wiedener of the First Reformed Church. Burial will be followed in Greenfield Cemetery, Hempstead.

Mrs. Christ was the widow of Emmanuel Christ, a prominent citizen of this village.

She is survived by three sons, George Emmanuel and Robert, and six daughters, Mrs. Elizabeth Krummenucker, Mrs. William Fish, Mrs. George Kittle, Mrs. Anthony Schrieder, Mrs. Henne and Mrs. Samuel Jeroux.

February 14, 1934

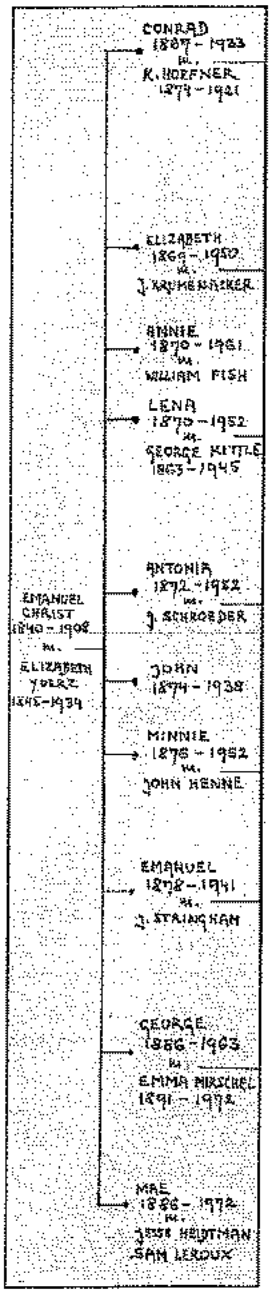
OBITUARY.

Emanuel Christ.

Emanuel Christ, a well known and respected merchant of Hyde Park, an uncle of Supervisor Philip J. Christ, died Sunday, aged 68 years. He leaves a widow and ten children, four sons and six daughters. He was a native of Germany and came to America many years ago on his honeymoon, settling in Hyde Park. Funeral services were held on Wednesday.

March 14, 1908

1887 - Emanuel Christ Family: (l-r) John, Emanuel Sr., Conrad, Emanuel Jr., Annie, Lena, Minnie, and Elizabeth seated holding twins Mae and George.
Emanuel Christ residence and shop built in 1881, now 1310 Jericho Turnpike.



Children of Emanuel and Elizabeth Christ

Conrad Christ, the eldest, met his wife Kate Hoeffener in Fosters Meadow (now Elmont) where he was schooled and was married at St. Boniface Catholic Church in 1896. He moved to Westbury where he built wagons and buggies and was an artist in making ornamental iron work. One can still admire the large beautiful gates he created for the rich people in Old Westbury. His son and his grandson followed in his footsteps and were wood and iron workers. It was his son Emanuel who was the only Christ to serve his country in World War I.

Elizabeth Christ, born in 1868, married John Krumenacker, a builder, lived in Floral Park. After John built 2 houses on Lakeville Road in New Hyde Park (one for himself and one for his daughter), they moved back to New Hyde Park. Their daughter Bethel married Earl Smith who was the Assistant Postmaster of Floral Park. Their son Carl established the Bedford Oil Co. in Floral Park.

Annie Christ, born in 1870, married William Fish, who managed a political organization, The Queens Club, and they lived in Queens Village. Their 2 children are William and Grace.

Lena Christ, born in 1870, who was Annie Christ's twin sister, married George Kittle, a seed store owner in Mobile, Alabama. The Kittles had three children Howard, Sterling and Corrine. There are about 35 living descendants of the Kittle's living in Alabama and Tennessee.

Antonia Christ, born in 1872, married Leon Krieg and had a son named Leo. After her husband's death she married John Schroeder and had two more children named Mae and John. They live on the island in the Huntington-Commack area.

John Christ, born in 1874, married and lived in Rockville Center. He is divorced, has two sons. He was a wheelwright and a wagon builder for the dry goods stores of Batterman and Wannemaker in Brooklyn.

Minnie Christ, born in 1876, married a potato farmer, John Henne and moved to Hicksville where they had a farm on Newbridge Road. Their two daughters, Lillian and Antonette married and lived their entire lives in Hicksville.

Emanuel Christ, Jr., born in 1878, married Jennie Stringham, lived and worked in Hempstead where he owned a Machine Shop. His two sons, William and Alfred built bodies for fire engines and they were the ones who invented the starting gates for the race tracks which still are used for all the horse races. He had two daughters Anna and Jennette.

Mae Christ, born in 1886, the youngest one, lived all her life in New Hyde Park. She first married Jess Heidtman who was a builder and had a contract for the first Firehouse in New Hyde Park. He failed to finish it and misappropriated some funds. Therefore, he ran off to Canada and joined their army. Mae got a divorce and a job in Floral Park where she worked at the Shepleman and Ramee drug-stores. She enjoyed that greatly as she not only dispensed some medicines but even medical advise which was appreciated by the customers. Later she married Sam Leroux and lived on South 13th Street.

George E. Christ, born in 1886, was a twin to Mae. He lived his entire life in New Hyde Park, married Emma Mirschell and had four children.

1896 - Emanuel Christ residence and general store.

Christ Family Photo: Jennie, Annie, George, John, John and Minni Henni. Seated Mae, Elizabeth, and Grace Haefle.

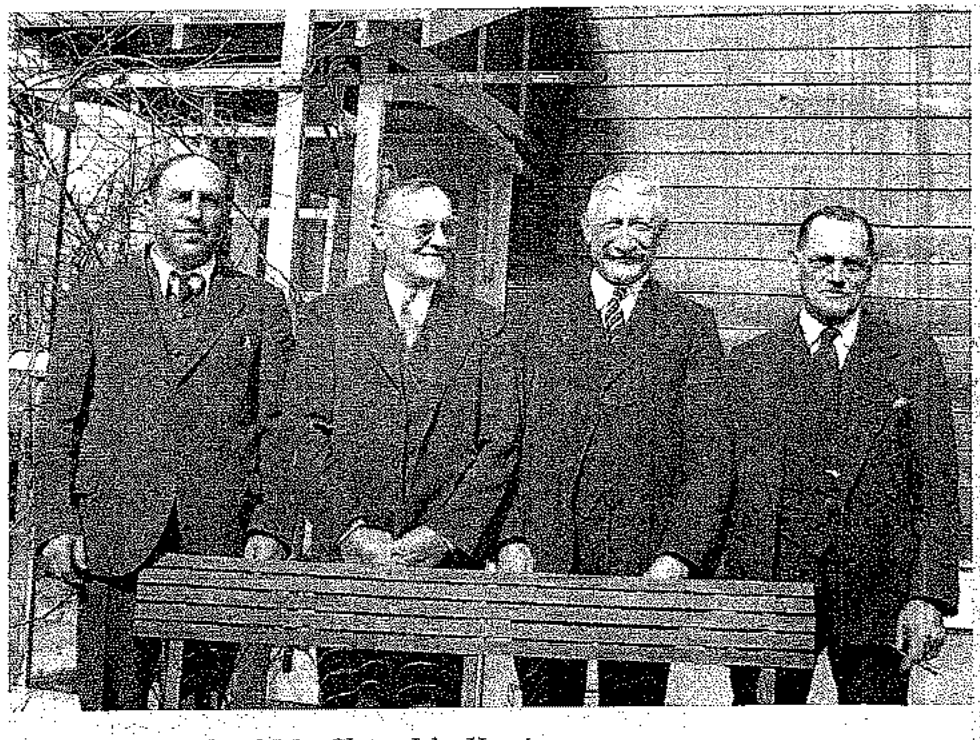
Airfield Owner Wed in Westbury

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Zahn are on their honeymoon following their marriage on Saturday afternoon. Young Mrs. Zahn, the former Miss Emma Christ of Butler St., Westbury, is the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Christ.

The informal ceremony took place at St. Brigid's Roman Catholic Church, Westbury. A reception followed at the bride's residence.

Emanual Christ gave his sister in marriage. She wore a grey afternoon dress with blue accessories and a pale pink hat. Mrs. Gertrude Kelly served as her sister's maid of honor and only attendant. August Zahn, brother of the bridegroom, served as best man. Andrew Christ and Joseph Christ, brother and nephew of the bride, ushered.

Mr. and Mrs. Zahn will make their home in Westbury. Mr. Zahn owns and operates the Zahn's Airfield at Amityville.



George, Emanuel and John Christ, John Henni.

A. E. Christ, Executive, 64

Special to Newsday

Sarasota, Fla.—Alfred E. Christ, 64, a Hempstead resident for most of his life and a former executive of a company manufacturing racetrack starting gates, died Thursday.

Christ and his brother, William E., who died last week, were partners in the former Hempstead Welding Co. on Whitson Street in Hempstead Village. The two brothers had founded the United Starting Gate Corp., a Tuckahoe company. Christ lived in Sarasota since retiring in May, 1962.

The welding company, in addition to being one of the largest manufacturers of racetrack starting gates, specialized in building custom-made fire trucks for volunteer fire departments in Nassau, Suffolk and Queens. Christ was born in Hempstead and lived most of his life there.

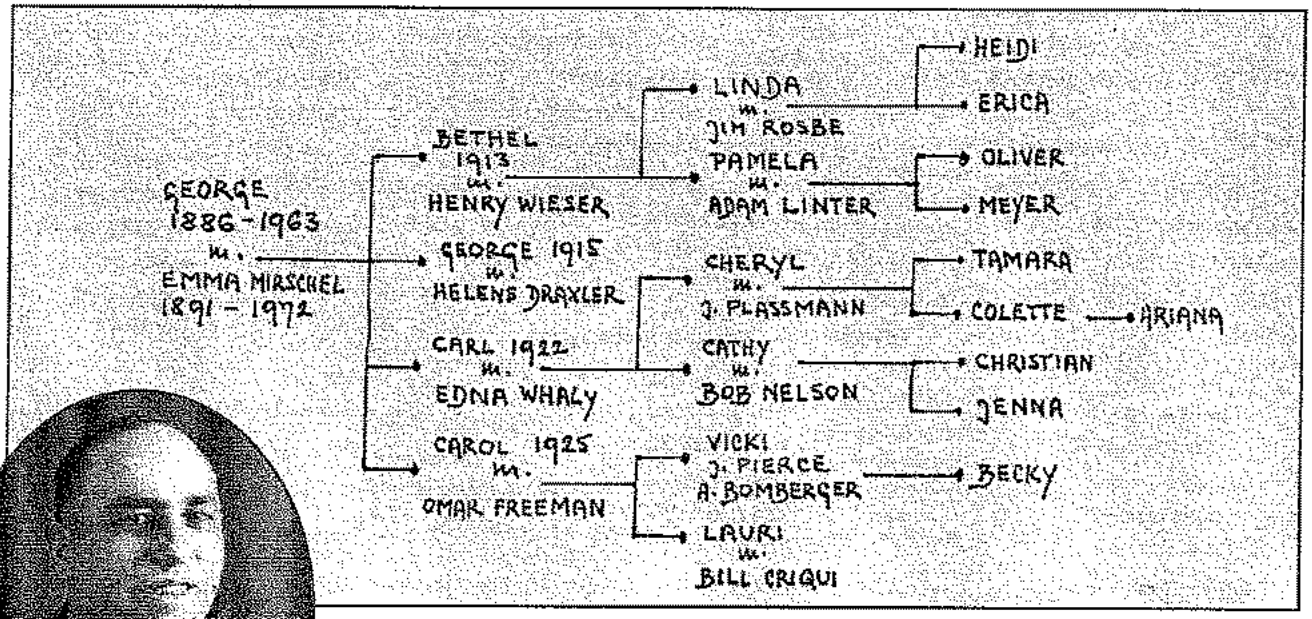
He is survived by his wife, Ellen; a son, Dr. William A. Christ of Massapequa; a sister, Mrs. Jeannette Hutcheson of Hempstead; his mother, Mrs. Jennie Christ of Hempstead, and two grandchildren.

Services will be at 2 PM Monday in the Williams Funeral Home in Hempstead. Burial will be in Greenfield Cemetery, Hempstead.

June 27, 1970

George E. Christ, Sr.

As Told By His Elder Son, George



George E. Christ Sr.

My father died in 1963. He was 77 years old and all his life, from cradle to grave, lived in just one place: 1310 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park. There was no time away for school or time away for the army. It was just one place, and his life was an open book for all to know about. When he died, I felt the terrible loss, my grief was deep, for I lost not only a parent, but a companion, a man with whom I was working side by side. He was born in the last century (1886). The youngest child of Emanuel and Elizabeth Christ and a twin to his sister Mae. His own father was 46 at the time and his mother was 41. But his childhood was happy and exciting. There was so much machinery around, even a steam engine for cutting of lumber. Horses had to be shod, buggies to be built, water wells and cisterns had to be dug. There were always people and animals around and he himself had pigeons, in which he kept an interest to the end of

George and Emma Christ

his life. When he was 6 years old, the first MacAdam Road replaced the wooden plank road. MacAdam invented the road building material by mixing crushed stones, tar and sand. It was new and modern and endlessly fascinating to a young boy who could watch everything close up. He felt like being in a magic world and years and years later he still talked about his impressions of that time.

He had to start school which by our standards was primitive, but the children did get an education. They learned the 3 R's quite well and young George enjoyed reading. Later in life, besides the newspaper, he subscribed to the Readers Digest and though he read the National Geographic from cover to cover, he never had a desire to travel.

In Emanuel's household the emphasis was on work. That is: Labor. Everyone had his chores and very early young George was reminded to help Pop. And help he did. He learned how to use tools and later how to shoe horses and run the various machines. He was still a teenager when he, with his older brother Emanuel Jr., started a bicycle repair shop. Business was thriving, but times were changing. Young George kept pace and went to a Brooklyn Trade School to learn the "Sanitary Plumbing" trade. In 1890 the first gas pipes were installed in the streets and now gas lighting in homes was possible. His first plumbing job was to drive a pipe into the ground and install a pump. In 1910 the Jamaica Water Supply Co. started to lay pipes and for the first time people in New Hyde Park could have running water in their homes. By that time young George's life had changed. He was a carefree young boy, but when in 1908 his father died, he had the responsibility of providing for his mother and he started to take an active part in the community. When in 1910 the Active Hook and Ladder Co. was organized, he was a charter member of our fire protection company.

For fun and socializing, he frequented the Nick Reuter dance hall, corner of Millers lane and

1930 - George Christ fireworks stand along Jericho Turnpike.

2nd Avenue. There he met his future wife: a cheerful fun loving young lady. She was the daughter of the prominent builder Carl Mirschel of Munson (now West Hempstead), and George went courting with a horse and buggy built by his father. Emma Mirschel and George exchanged their marriage vows on June 5, 1912, at the Lutheran Church in Hempstead. A big reception was held at her fathers residence in Munson. They went by train to Niagara Falls to spend their honeymoon and were driven to the Garden City Station in great style by car. The only automobile around at the time was owned by Wilfred Bowen, who provided the newlyweds with that ultra modern transportation. Elizabeth Christ considered herself fortunate to have Emma for a daughter-in-law and when first a daughter Bethel was born on Feb. 23, 1913, and George Jr. on July 29, 1915, she was only too glad to help out. The two younger children Carl M. were born in 1922 and Carol Mae 1925. George did well at his business, but with all the ups and downs in the economy, he looked for additional ventures. His father-in-law was his role model. Carl Mirschell built in 1906 the school building on Jericho Turnpike and New Hyde Park Road and about 100 homes in the Hempstead area. When George became his son-in-law, he gave him the contract for all the plumbing and heating installations.

George went into the building trade himself. In New Hyde Park, he owned property and built houses on North 10th, North 12th Streets and Jericho Turnpike and several in Floral Park. Later his partner was Charles Weckerle, and they built several houses in the Covert Park area.

My father was very busy, worked hard and thought he had it made. Then the depression hit. There were neither buyers nor renters for the houses, but real estate taxes had to be paid and my father saw his accumulated wealth dwindle away. But he never gave up the plumbing business and the family survived the depression. Through all that time, he continued to participate in community affairs. In 1933 he ran for Village Trustee and was elected. He served for 4 years and was appointed Building Inspector and served for 2 years. While he was Trustee, the Village Board decided on the acquisition of the school building for the sum of $25,000. Besides being an ex-fireman, his membership in various organizations included the Board of Trade, New Hyde Park Civic Association and the Masons.

As I said: the depression was hard on the family. The buildings were a drain and there were few jobs for a blacksmith or a plumber. My father decided to go into the plumbing supply business and incorporated Feb. 1938. Once the F.H.A. was formed and people could get loans, business picked up for a few years until I had to leave for the army. Due to the war effort, merchandise was scarce and when I returned home in 1945 the business had changed again. There was a shortage of plumbing supplies and, in order to fill a need, my father started to sell used merchandise. By this time the bulk of our customers were homeowners who were forced to do their own repairs, and we not only supplied them with parts but also with instructions. My brother Carl joined us in the business, and it stayed the same even after my father's death in 1963, until in 1984 a new owner took over.

George lived all his life in the same house, though over the years it has seen some changes. There was indoor plumbing, a bathroom, gas and electricity and central heating. The year 1963 was very different from 1886. There were roads and the automobile. Medicine was greatly changed. We had a cure for polio and had satellites in space. The young George was fascinated by everything new and modern. The old George turned his back on progress. When he died there was no telephone in his house. But we have to judge people by what they are and not by their possessions. George Christ was an honest, upright, fascinating man and I am proud to call him my father.

Emma V. Christ

As mentioned before, my mother Emma was fun loving and full of life. She loved people and always had countless friends. No matter who came to the house, they had to sit down and share a meal with

the family. There never was any lack of company, as grandma's numerous offspring, their spouses and children came regularly for a visit. When the depression hit, many family members fell on hard times, lost everything and my parents took them in. We children just loved having all the people in the house and the two girls, Bethel and Carol, benefited. An uncle who lived with us built them a beautiful dollhouse. Many times cousins stayed for long periods and we, the four children, spent the summers in Bayville where an aunt owned a summer cottage. We went swimming, boating and clam digging and everyday there was clam chowder. All remember a most happy and wonderful time, but can't recall the crowded conditions in the tiny bungalow.

Emma Christ and daughter Bethel

The strength of a community depends on many people and my mother made her contributions too. She was most active at her church the First Reformed Church of New Hyde Park where she was a very successful fundraiser. Having had a brother in World War I, she was eligible to join the auxiliary of the American Legion and eventually became the President. When her children became of school age, she joined the PTA and there too became President. She was active in civic organizations and participated in the drive for the first Library in New Hyde Park. She had great empathy for people, was affected and saddened at their misfortunes and tried to help where she could. Like in every life there were some ups and downs: the depression for one. Then both her sons served in World War II which naturally worried her and in 1949 my father suffered a heart attack. He survived and my mother and father celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary amongst family and friends. The highlight of the celebration was a play about their life, written and performed by their grandchildren.

After my father's death in 1963, my mother remained in the house at 1310 Jericho Turnpike, although it was empty by now. Everyone was living in their own homes. One summer Sunday, she came home from church and, while making tea, her scarf caught fire and she was severely burned. She died on July 15, 1972, and was mourned by all the community.

Children of George E. Christ. Sr. and Emma V. Christ

Bethel Christ Wieser

The oldest child of George and Emma Christ was born February 23, 1913. Her childhood was not different from that of all the other children in the neighborhood. Numerous friends and cousins were around to play with. She attended grade school in New Hyde park and high school in Hempstead. After graduation she enrolled in a private secretarial school where she did very well. Her first job was at the Library in New Hyde Park and later she worked at the Bank of New Hyde Park. She was active in the auxiliary of the American Legion. In 1940 she met and married a young Swiss banker, Henry Wieser. They moved into a house on North 12th St. built by her father. When hostilities broke out, Henry, who was now a U.S. citizen, was drafted into the army and spent the war years overseas. Meanwhile, Bethel took a job with the Sperry Corp. After Henry's return home, their two daughters Linda and Pamela were born. They moved to a larger house in Garden City, spent some years in Switzerland and now live in California.

Emma, Bethel and George E. Christ

George Emanuel Christ

Born: July 29, 1915

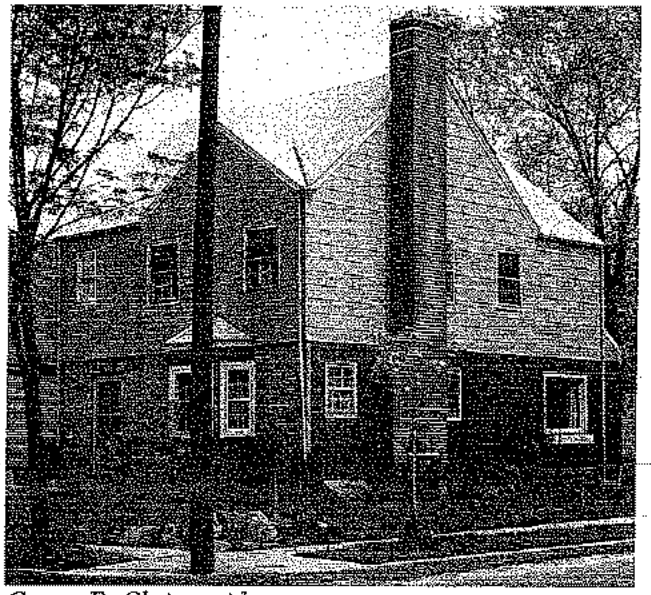
Schooling: New Hyde Park Grade School, Hempstead & Sewanhaka High Schools

Profession: Proprietor George E. Christ Plumbing Supply Co. Inc., Retired

Military Service: 4 years, S/Sgt. 82nd Airborne Div., 508 Pracht. Inf., Reg. Arrow Head, 4 Battle Stars

Community Service: Village Trustee, Assessor, Com. of V.F.W. & Am. Legion Civic Associations

Present: Member of the Cultural Commission & Historian of the village of New Hyde Park.



George E. Christ residence. Terrace Boulevard.

Carl Mirschel Christ

The younger son of George and Emma Christ was born February 19, 1922. His childhood was exciting because there were so many young people of his age around at that time. He went to the New Hyde Park Road school and after graduation from Sewanhaka High School enrolled at Hofstra College. He entered the military and served in Europe during World War II with the Air Force as a Lieutenant. After returning he joined his father's business. His activities in the Village included membership in the American Legion and the New Hyde Park Civic Association where he became the President. He was a Nassau County Republican Committeeman and later left his father's business to take a job in the Nassau County Highway Dept. as an inspector. He is married to Edna Whaley and they have two daughters: Cheryl and Cathy. Carl retired from the county position and lives now in Stony Brook, LI, NY.

Carl Mirschel Christ

Carol Mae Christ Freeman

Carol born April 8, 1925, was the youngest child of George and Emma Christ. She attended the New Hyde Park Road School and Sewanhaka High School and after graduation, like her older sister Bethel, enrolled in a secretarial school and landed a job as Executive Secretary in Sperry Corp. Carol married Omar Freeman who spent the war years in the Navy. After returning home, he started a Body and Fender Shop at 1 North 12th Street. They had an opportunity to buy a moviehouse and moved to Iowa, where both their children Vicki and Laurie were born. Eventually they moved back to Long Island, live in Garden City and still run a movie theater business. Carol was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and assisted her brother George, while he was chairman of the Cultural Commission of New Hyde Park.

Carol Mae Christ

JOHN C. CHRIST FAMILY TREE

JOHN CHRIST
1827 - 1885
m.
ROSINA
1835 - 1902
m.
PHILLIP MILLER
1842 - 1939

PHILLIP J.
1872 - 1953
m. 1899
ANNA GOTTSCH
1878 - 1964

MARCUS
1900 - 1988
m.
MARION HALSTEAD
1903 - 1991

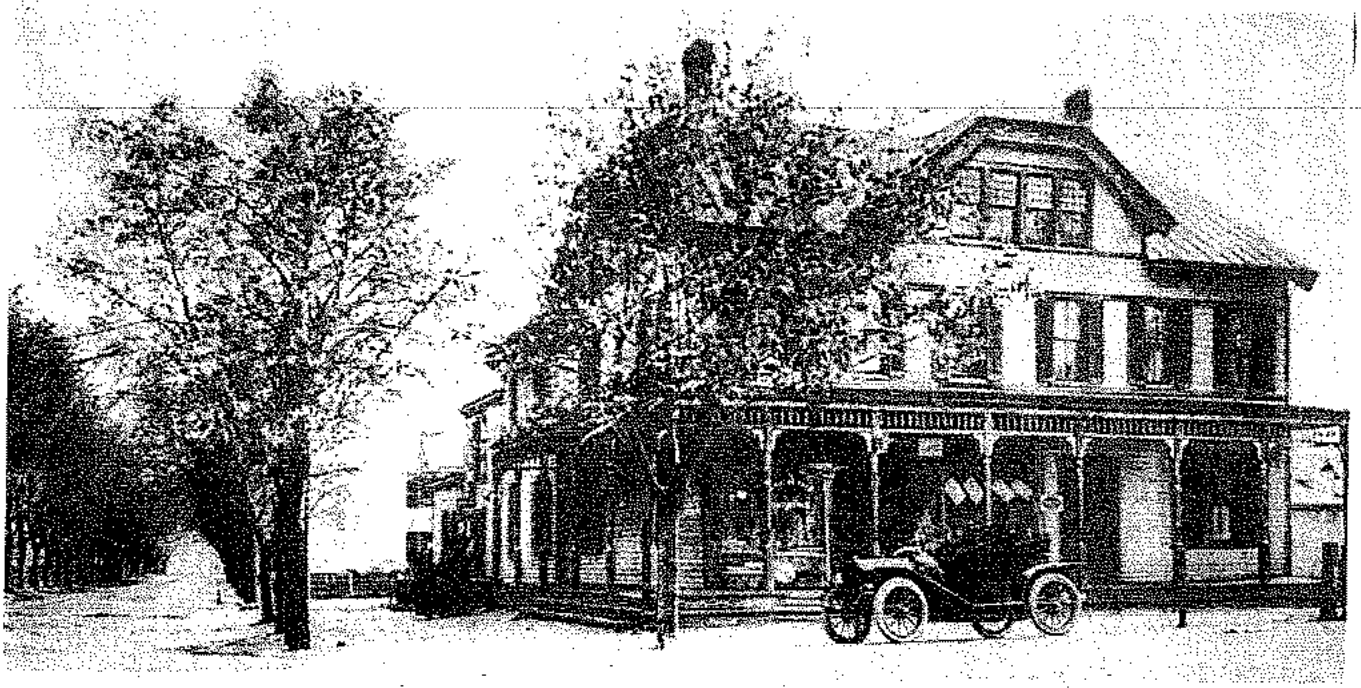
PHILLIP
1932
DONALD
1936
HALLSTEAD
1934
CHARLOTTE
1932

CHARLOTTE
1903
m.
GEORGE HUGHES

John Christ

5 - John Christ Family

After settling in Hyde Park in 1867, John (1827-1885) stopped working as a machinist and devoted his time to running an inn and grocery store. John Christ was a community activist, responsible for the drive to establish a Post Office and he became the first Postmaster in New Hyde Park. He was helped in his ventures by Philip Miller, who followed him to Hyde Park and lived with him. John was only 58 years old when he died and his only child, Philip, was 13. He was mourned by the whole community. John's son Philip and grandson Marcus were so active and well known in the community, that almost everyone still living in New Hyde Park is familiar with their achievements. Amongst the most important ones: Philip became supervisor of the Town of North Hempstead and, after serving for three years, was chairman of the Nassau County Board of Supervisors for ten years. Marcus became a judge and was appointed to the Appellate Division of the State of New York and therefore the most distinguished citizen of New Hyde Park. Today, great-grandchildren of John Christ are judges, lawyers or prominent in the business world.



1880 - Originally built by John J. Christ at 1218 Jericho Turnpike as a one-story building to house the grocery store and Post Office. The Postmaster at the time was Rosina Christ with son Philip as assistant. After the death of John Christ in 1885, his widow Rosina married Philip Miller the following year. He added a second story with a very spacious room and called it Miller's Hall. The hall was used as a dance hall and a meeting place for three local churches, the Fire Department, and several other organizations.
Photo: A Postcard in the Mae Christ Leroux scrapbook.

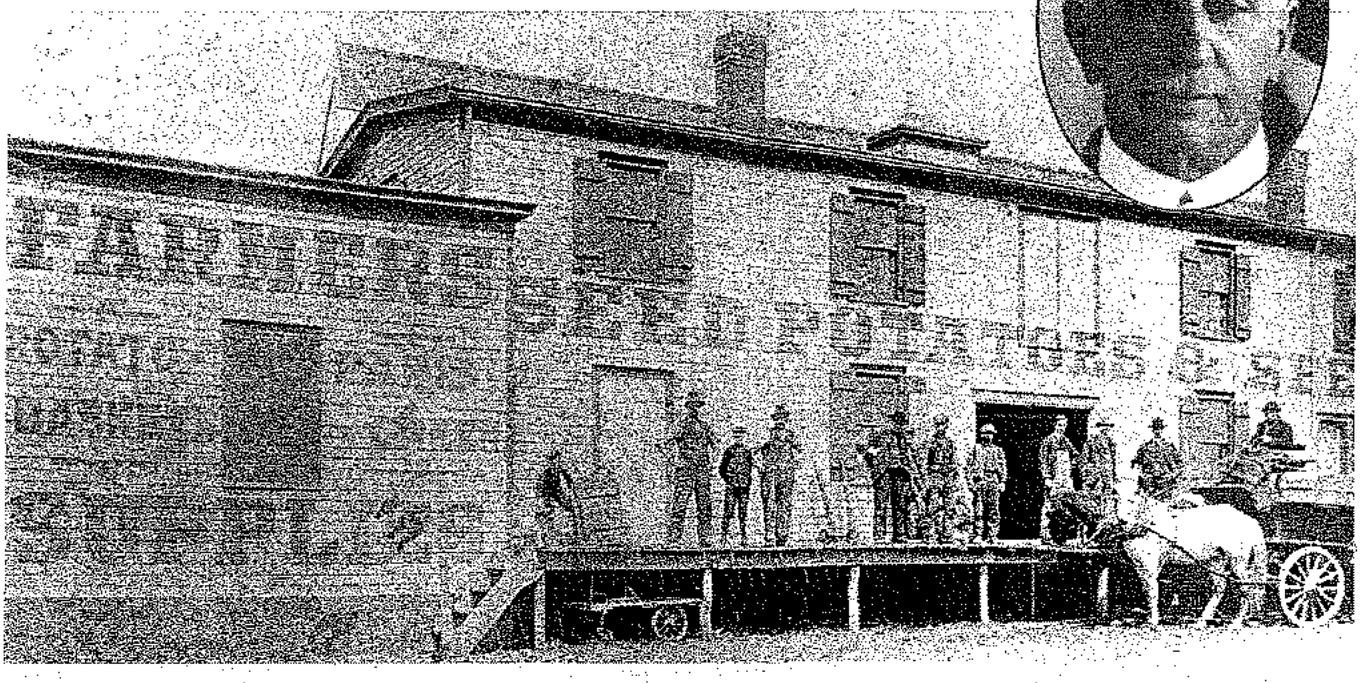
Biography of Philip J. Christ

by Marcus G. Christ

Of those who by progressive enterprise and the use of sound business methods and principles have continued to confirm the long-established good repute of the mercantile portion of the history of New Hyde Park, and Nassau County, Philip J. Christ has been a factor both in the direction of his own business concerns and in the management of those official positions that are the gift of the people. His father had been one of the old time merchants here, and made a record of high value as store-keeper and townsman, and his son has not only followed in his footsteps of probity, but has won other laurels for general enterprise and upright dealing. Landmarks of business in which Mr. Christ and his parents have been engaged, are those grocery houses that have borne their name, and which have been popular centers of merchandising for years; while the Long Island Seed Company and its immediate successor have become widely known for capable management. In many official places, as well, Mr. Christ has proven the qualities of leadership and of management for mutual good. He is a son of John C. Christ, who came to New Hyde Park from New York City in 1867, and died here in 1885.

Philip J. Christ was born at New Hyde Park, New York, April 25, 1872. He received his education in the public schools of his birthplace and in the high school of Jamaica, New York. After his schooling, he immediately entered upon the grocer's business with his father, and after the death of the latter, Mrs. Christ continued the business at the same stand for a period of sixteen years, assisted by her son. In 1901, Philip J. Christ established the business known as the Long Island Seed Company, and so continued until 1909; his stock being a general line of seeds and of garden implements. Then, with a store under his own name, he continued as a merchant in the seed and potato

Honorable Philip J. Christ, Chairman Nassau County Board of Supervisors and President of Bank of New Hyde Park.



Jesse Baylis, Philip J. Christ, Frank Garvey And George Stattel all had owned the seed company.
2nd Avenue and Herkomer Street
Photo: Marcus G. Christ Collection

business up to 1913. Meantime in 1892, he had been appointed postmaster at New Hyde Park, New York, a position that his father had occupied previously. Successively, he was chosen to other places of trust throughout the different townships, as when in 1899, he was elected receiver of taxes in the Town of North Hempstead in which position he served for two years. Resigning in 1904, he was elected President of the Board of Education of New Hyde Park. He resigned that office in 1907, to take the position of Supervisor of North Hempstead, serving thus for ten years, resigning voluntarily. He was elected in 1911 as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of the Country, serving until his retirement from public office.
Mr. Christ has been actively identified with the Democratic Party all of his career, and served as Chairman of the Democratic County Committee for twenty years; Mr. Christ was also a member of the Hudson-Fulton Commission. He is a member of the Charter Commission of Nassau County, and a member and Vice-President of the Board of Child Welfare, of Nassau County. On May 1, 1919, he joined the incorporated firm of Clark, Christ and McKellar, a real estate and insurance corporation, a connection which continued until May, 1924, when he was elected Vice-President and General Manager of the National Bank of Mineola. During the World War, he served as a member of the draft board and was also active in organizing the Bank of New Hyde Park of which he is President.

Fraternally, he is affiliated with Lodge No. 878, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He is a communicant of the Roman Catholic Church at New Hyde Park.

Mr. Christ married June 6, 1899, Anna Gottsch, of Brooklyn, NY and they are the proud parents of Marcus G. Christ, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and the Harvard Law School; and of Charlotte B. Christ, a senior at Elmira College, at Elmira, New York.

1996 - Philip Christ Residence.

April 13th, 1958: 80th birthday of Mrs. Philip Christ. Hon. Marcus Christ and wife Marion help celebrate.

Mrs. Anna Christ, Mother of Court Justice

New Hyde Park — Mrs. Anna Gottsch Christ, the mother of Associate Justice Marcus G. Christ of the State Supreme Court Appellate Division, died yesterday at her home, 15 Millers Lane, following a prolonged illness. She was 85.

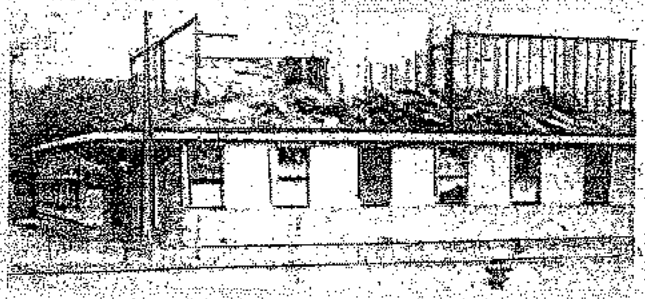
Born in Brooklyn, Mrs. Christ was active for more than two generations in the civic and social affairs of New Hyde Park. She was the founder and first president of the Parent-Teachers Association, and a charter member and vice president of the Garden City-Hempstead Woman's Community Club. She also was active in the Nassau Chapter of the American Red Cross during its early days.

Mrs. Christ was the widow of the late North Hempstead Town Supervisor Philip J. Christ, who died in 1933. Christ had served on the board of supervisors of the county from 1907-17 and was its last Democratic chairman previous to the election of County Executive Nickerson.

In addition to her son, she is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Gerard B. Hughes of Garden City, eight grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. The body is reposing at Fairchild's Funeral Home in Garden City. Funeral services will be held there at 3 PM Sunday with private burial services at Greenfield Cemetery, Hempstead.

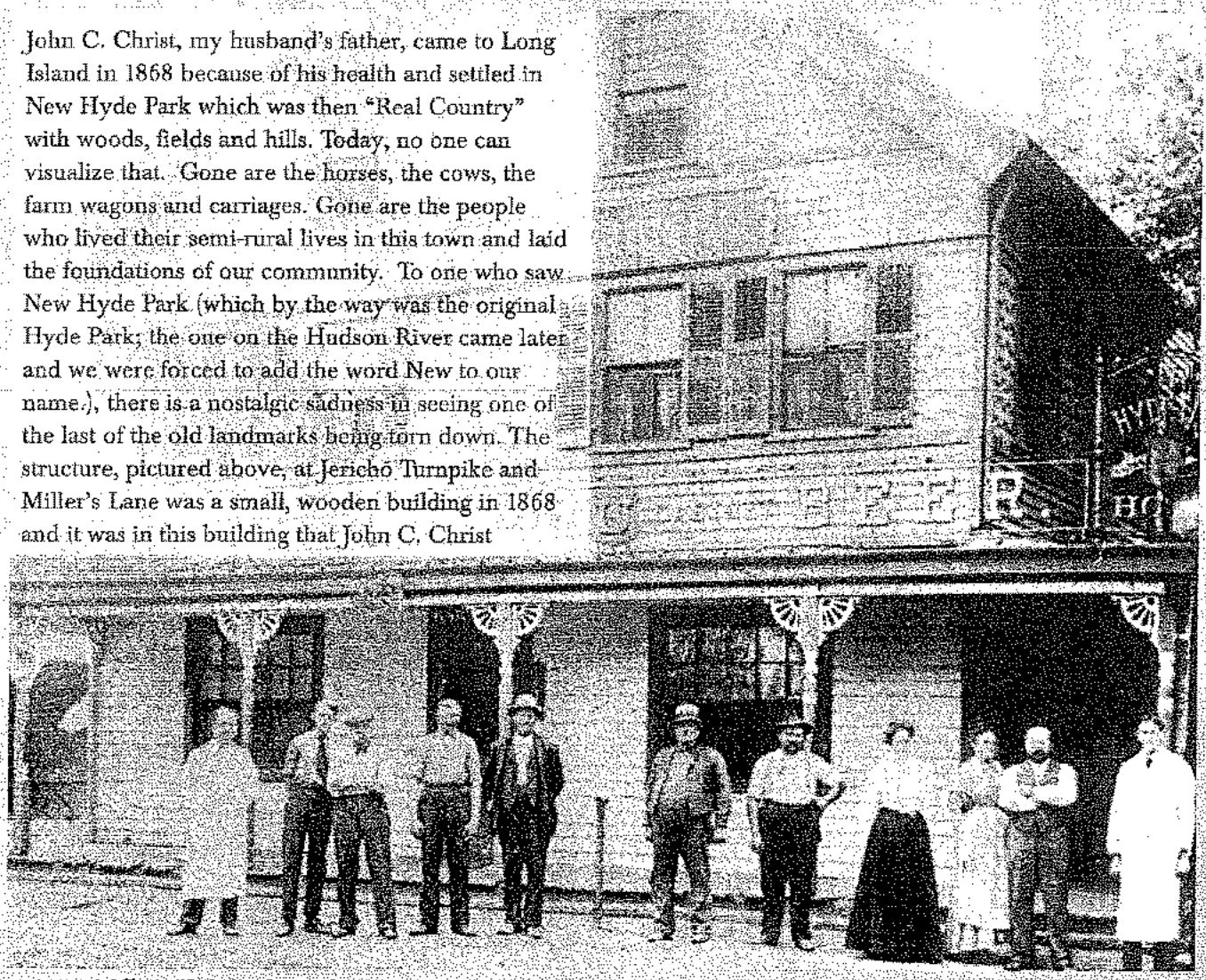
Passing of a Landmark

By Anna Christ



1300 Jericho Turnpike

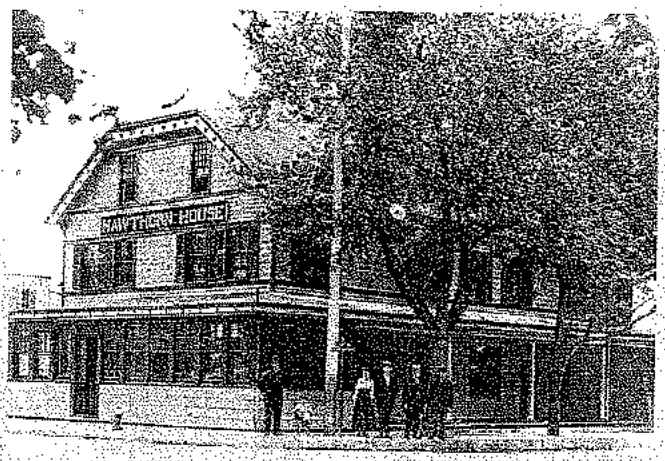
John C. Christ, my husband's father, came to Long Island in 1868 because of his health and settled in New Hyde Park which was then "Real Country" with woods, fields and hills. Today, no one can visualize that. Gone are the horses, the cows, the farm wagons and carriages. Gone are the people who lived their semi-rural lives in this town and laid the foundations of our community. To one who saw New Hyde Park (which by the way was the original Hyde Park; the one on the Hudson River came later and we were forced to add the word New to our name.), there is a nostalgic sadness in seeing one of the last of the old landmarks being torn down. The structure, pictured above, at Jericho Turnpike and Miller's Lane was a small, wooden building in 1868 and it was in this building that John C. Christ opened a retail grocery store. There was a need for such an establishment and the folks for miles around came to buy their weekly supplies. Hinsdale (Floral Park) was half an hour away by horse and buggy. Jericho Turnpike was a log road and I can sometimes on a cold clear night, hear the creak of farm wagon wheels in my imagination, as they bumped along over this, corduroy highway. The L.I.R.R. started at Flushing and ended at Babylon. There was no main line through this area. Farmers and merchants traveled along Jericho Turnpike as far as Huntington. Some merchants came from far off Brooklyn and this necessitated a stop-over. And so, the little retail store blossomed into a small hotel with the meals being cooked



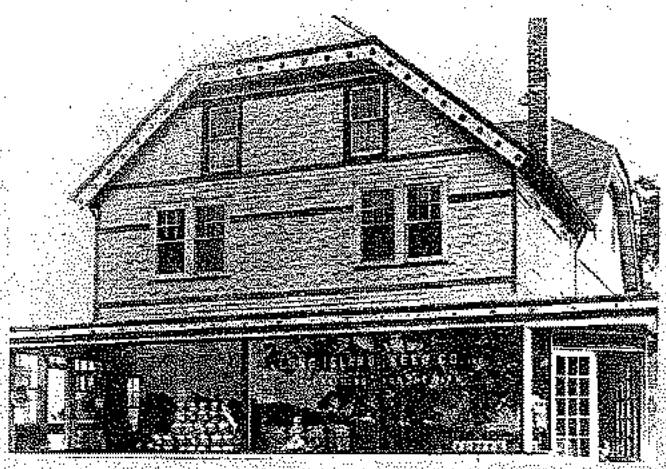
1890 - Miller's Hyde Park Hotel.
1300 Jericho Turnpike
Photo: Marcus G. Christ Collection

by Mrs. Christ. Mr. Philip Miller, a boyhood friend and classmate of Mr. Christ then came into the business, and the building was enlarged and a front and side porch was added. Mr. Miller's hobby was gardening, and he established an outdoor garden that was a thing of beauty. The need for a Post Office was felt and Mr. Christ wrote to Washington but his request was turned down. He then wrote to folks in Brooklyn and New York and had hundreds of people write letters to him. Washington saw that a need existed and established the Hyde Park Post Office in the hotel, with Mr. Christ as its first Postmaster. The business flourished so that a larger building was needed to take care of the demand for groceries and general supplies. It was built by Mr. Miller in 1885 and is known as Walter's Inn. When Mr. Christ died, Mr. Miller married his widow and thus, the former Mrs. J. C. Christ became Mrs. Philip Miller. The automobile was beginning to emerge. The Vanderbilt Cup Races were held along Jericho Turnpike around 1905. Bicycling too became the rage and cyclists from Brooklyn started at Prospect Park Circle and made a "century" run to the Christ-Miller Hotel in Hyde Park. Even in those days there were "speeders". They were known as "scrochers" who exceeded the limit of 10 miles per hour. Big events were strawberry festivals and medicine shows and many organizations and several churches were organized at the meetings held in the new Miller Building (now Walter's Inn). The old order changeth. With the death of Mrs. Miller, the property was sold to Mr. F. Garvey and eventually became an automobile showroom. Gone with the wind are the good old days of relaxed living, the smell of new-mown hay, the chomp of contented horses at their evening meal and the mooing of cows and the cackle of the hens. Gone too is Mr. Miller's pride and joy, the garden and flowers. Having seen both the old and the new, I wonder whether we have traded these times of peace, contentment and comfort. Mr. Garvey eventually sold the property and after numerous changes it became known as the Carol Inn, which for the past four years had stood empty and forlorn, a mockery of it's former glory. As this is written the gaunt skeleton of the old hotel is being carted away and nothing but rubble remains. Thus, an old landmark passes and with its going marks the end of an era too.

1909 - Schulz's Hyde Park Hotel.
1300 Jericho Turnpike
Photo: Mae Christ Leroux



1915 - Hawthorn House.
1300 Jericho Turnpike
Photo: Marcus G. Christ Collection



1920 - Long Island Seed Company,
Proprietor Frank Garvey.
1300 Jericho Turnpike

Marcus G. Christ

Autobiography written for the dedication of Marcus G. Christ Hall. Sunday, May 21, 1978.

Marcus G. Christ

Marcus G. Christ retired as an Associate Justice of the Appellate Division for the Second Judicial Department on August 1, 1976, completing a judicial career which began in 1928, when he served as Police Justice of the Village of New Hyde Park, the Long Island community where he has lived all his life. Justice Christ still resides at 5 Millers Lane, the house in which he was born on April 7, 1900.

Ingraham Lane residence of Marcus G. Christ, before moving to Millers Lane.

There is a strong tradition of public service in the Christ family. The Judge's father, the late Philip J. Christ, was the elected supervisor of the Town of North Hempstead from 1907 to 1917, and was chosen as Chairman of the Nassau County Board of Supervisors in 1910, a position he held for the remainder of his tenure as supervisor. In addition, one of the Judge's four children, Marcus Hallsted, is now the elected comptroller of Nassau County.

Justice Christ went on to serve as a Deputy County Attorney of Nassau County and then as County Attorney before commencing 26 years in major courts with his appointment in 1950 by the late Governor Thomas E. Dewey, as a Judge of the Nassau County Court. In those years, the County Judge doubled as Judge of the then existent Children's Court and also filled in on occasion for the Surrogate.

Christ to Get Bar Group's Annual Medal

Garden City — State Supreme Court Justice Marcus C. Christ will receive the Nassau County Bar Association's Distinguished Service Medallion for 1962 at the association's annual dinner on May 24.

Christ, who started his judicial career when he became police justice in New Hyde Park 34 years ago, has been assigned to the Appellate Division of Supreme Court for several years. He is a past president and director of the bar association, a former president of the New York State County Officers Association and a former chairman of the Nassau County Chapter of the American Red Cross. The bar association named Christ for the annual award in "recognition of more than 30 years of distinguished service on the bench and in other public offices."

Marcus G. Christ
Cited for Service

The bar association president, Charles P. Buckley Jr. of Freeport, said he expected more than 1,000 members and guests to attend the dinner to be held in the Garden City Hotel. The association's Distinguished Service Medallion was first awarded in 1940 to former President Hoover.

In 1953, he was elected a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York. In 1959, Justice Christ was appointed an Associate Justice of the Appellate Division by Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller. Upon the death of Presiding Justice George Beldock in March 1970, Governor Rockefeller appointed him to the position of Presiding Justice, in which high judicial office he also served as a member of the Administrative Board of the Judicial Conference, the policy making and administrative agency for the State court system.

Under the provision of the New York State Constitution which mandates the retirement of a judge at the age of 70, Judge Christ retired as Presiding Justice. However, he was again appointed an Associate Justice of the Appellate Division by Governor Rockefeller and continued to serve as allowed by law past the retirement age, appointed successively by Governor Malcolm Wilson and Hugh L. Carey.

Justice Christ is a graduate of New Hyde Park public schools and Hempstead High School. He holds a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Pennsylvania and a Juris Doctor degree from Harvard Law School, as well as a honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from St. John's University and Adelphi University.

Charlotte Christ Bernard (daughter of Marcus Christ)

In 1928, Justice Christ married Marion C. Hallsted of Athens, N.Y. Justice and Mrs. Christ have four children–Philip J., Marcus Hallsted, Mrs. Charlotte E. Bernard and Donald C.– and twelve grandchildren.

Along with his many years in the legal profession and in the Judiciary, Justice Christ has long been active in community affairs. He was instrumental in the incorporation of New Hyde Park, serving as a member of the incorporation committee and as its counsel. He is also a past president of the Bank of New Hyde Park. He was a founder of the New Hyde Park Village Library and of the Sewanhaka High School District. He is a past chairman of the Nassau County Chapter of the American Red Cross, a past president of the New York State County officers Association and, long and avid boat enthusiast, past Commodore of the Manhasset Bay Yacht Club.

A past president of the Bar Association of Nassau County, Justice Christ has been a recipient of the Association's Distinguished Service Award. He was also a recipient of the Long Island Daily Press Distinguished Service Award for outstanding service to Nassau County.

He is a member of the Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity of the University of Pennsylvania, the Langdell Law Club of Harvard law School, the Manhasset Bay and Shelter Island Yacht Clubs, the New Hyde Park Fire Department, the Elks Lodge and the New Hyde Park American Legion Post.

Gottsch Family: Max and Charlotte Gottsch were the parents of Philip Christ's wife, Anna Gottsch. The Gottschs were Marcus G. Christ's maternal grandparents.

1996 - Max Gottsch residence Herkomer Street

MRS. GOLTSCH DIES

Mrs. Marx Gottsch died April 28 at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Anna Christ, at New Hyde Park. The deceased was 87 years of age and had lived at New Hyde Park for a number of years. 1964

Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon at her late home, the Rev. H. D. Geist of the Presbyterian church officiating. The interment took place in Greenfield cemetery, Hempstead.

She is survived by her daughter, Mrs. Christ, a son, Christian H. Gottsch of Babylon and four grandchildren.

1964

MAX GOTTSCH IS DEAD AT 87

NEW HYDE PARK—Max Gottsch of 33 Herkimer street, New Hyde Park, whose grandson is Police Justice Marcus Christ of this village, died last night after an illness of three weeks.

Mr. Gottsch, 87, left Germany 63 years ago. He lived here for 32 years. He was treasurer of the local school board, and held the same post in the New Hyde Park Fire Department for 25 consecutive years. He also belonged to the New Hyde Presbyterian Church and the Schiller Masonic Lodge.

Services will be held Monday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Philip J. Christ of 5 Miller lane, here. Burial will be in Greenfield Cemetery.

Besides his daughter and grandson, he is survived by his widow, Charlotte; a son, Christian J. Gottsch; grandchildren, Mrs. G. A. Hughes, and Donald and Brewster Gottsch. There are eight great grandchildren.

September 11, 1936

1905 - George P. Schnurr General Store.
1218 Jericho Turnpike
Photo: Marcus G. Christ Collection

PHILIP MILLER, NEW HYDE PARK PIONEER, DEAD

97-Year-Old Man Passes On as Friends Gather to Give Him Party

NEW HYDE PARK—This village today mourned the death of its oldest and most beloved citizen, Philip J. Miller, 97. He died Christmas Eve as friends and relatives were gathering to be with him for the holiday.

Although he had been critically ill for several weeks, the last words he uttered were a prayer for peace and a hope that Europe would end its war.

Mr. Miller's death was attributed to old age. He died at 6:45 P. M., Sunday, at the home of his step daughter-in-law, Mrs. Philip Christ, with whom he had lived for the past 38 years.

Despite partial blindness and the infirmities of his age, Mr. Miller insisted on keeping abreast of life about him, particularly of the happenings in this village which he helped develope from a crossroads.

Organized Firemen

He organized the volunteer fire department in 1890, led the fight for establishment of the postoffice in 1871 and contributed half of the cost for building the Long Island Railroad station.

When a group decided to build a Catholic church, it was Mr. Miller who was the organizer. From this beginning grew the present parish of the Church of the Holy Ghost, and Mr. Miller was the first president of the Holy Name Society of the church.

The village saw its first school constructed in 1883. That structure still stands on New Hyde Park road, surrounded by 18 trees planted as saplings and presented to the school board by Mr. Miller.

Mr. Miller came to this community as a young man of 24 in 1867 from Veilsheim, Germany, his birthplace. He opened a general store on Jericho turnpike, which, at that time, was only a plank road from Jamaica. Many years afterward, he built the Colonial Hotel, which still stands on Miller's lane and Jericho turnpike.

Not until he was 88, did he give up his place in the choir of the Holy Ghost Church, and he was over 90 when ill health forced him to give up working his one-acre garden.

Mr. Miller was a lifelong Republican. He voted for the last time in 1938 for District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey, Republican gubernatorial candidate.

Mr. Miller always attributed "regular living habits" as the secret of his old age. He said he never smoked and indulged in alcoholic drinks only moderately.

Couldn't Go to Fair

When the village was aroused over a municipal-lighting controversy a few years ago, Mr. Miller issued a statement supporting municipal ownership. He never grew too old to take an active interest in his community. He had looked forward to visiting the World Fair, but his failing eyesight and ill health kept him away.

On the death of his personal friend, John C. Christ, many years ago, Mr. Miller married Christ's widow. She died 33 years ago, and Mr. Miller went to live with his step-son, Philip Christ. He died seven years ago, and since then Mr. Miller has lived with his step daughter-in-law, Mrs. Christ.

Although Mr. Miller never had any children of his own, he leaves a step-daughter, Mrs. G. A. Fensterer of Garden City, a step-brother, Frank Miller of this village; seven grandchildren, 16 greatgrandchildren and one great-greatgrandchild.

A high requiem mass will be offered at Holy Ghost Church at 10 A. M., Thursday, and burial will be in St. Boniface Cemetery.

1943

6 - Philip J. Miller

Philip Miller married John Christ's widow Rosina, became Postmaster and expanded the Inn John Christ built renaming it the "Colonial Hotel." Philip also built a store on the opposite corner for the grocery business and a second floor above which was called Millers Hall. In 1920 he sold the inn to Frank Garvey, and, with the new owner it became the "Long Island Seed Company".

1996 - Henry's Inn
1218 Jericho Turnpike

New Hyde Park's Grand Old Man

One cannot very well think of New Hyde Park without associating with it the name of Phil J. Miller. Mr. Miller is the oldest resident of this Village and has always taken an active interest in its affairs.

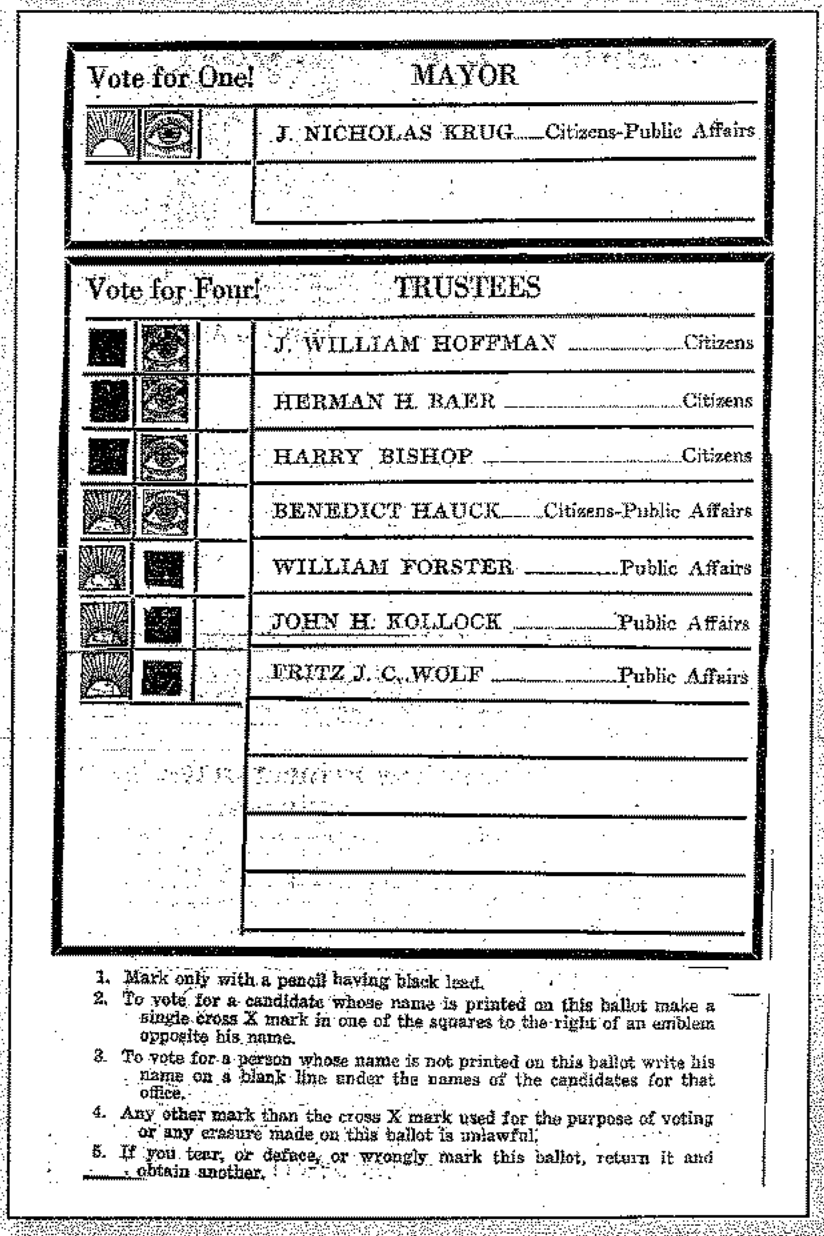
He is one of its pioneers, having moved here in 1867. At that time there were only a few dwellings in what is now the Incorporated Village of New Hyde Park, including a silk weaving establishment which was conducted by Anton Herkomer, on Millers Lane, whose residence is still occupied by his daughter, Mrs. Jacob Simon. Mr. Miller together with John C. Christ, father of Philip J. Christ, was instrumental in establishing the first Post Office.

In 1870 he planted the beautiful maple trees on Millers Lane, which are an ornament to the street and Village. Later he planted the trees on Ingraham Lane and New Hyde Park Road, also the trees on the Jericho Turnpike. It was largely due to his efforts that many of our streets were opened and improved.

Mr. Miller served many years as Postmaster of New Hyde Park, and held various public positions in the Town and School District.

As a Real Booster, the Grand Old Man is, and always has been a 100% booster and is still going strong.

Our hats are off to him and we extend to him our congratulations and wish him a continuance of good health to enjoy the fruits of his many years of unselfish contribution to the success of New Hyde Park.



Vote for One! MAYOR

J. NICHOLAS KRUG.....Citizens-Public Affairs

Vote for Four! TRUSTEES

J. WILLIAM HOFFMAN .....Citizens

HERMAN H. BAER .....Citizens

HARRY BISHOP .....Citizens

BENEDICT HAUCK.....Citizens-Public Affairs

WILLIAM FORSTER .....Public Affairs

JOHN H. KOLLOCK .....Public Affairs

FRITZ J. C. WOLF .....Public Affairs

1. Mark only with a pencil having black lead.
2. To vote for a candidate whose name is printed on this ballot make a single cross X mark in one of the squares to the right of an emblem opposite his name.
3. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on this ballot write his name on a blank line under the names of the candidates for that office.
4. Any other mark than the cross X mark used for the purpose of voting or any erasure made on this ballot is unlawful.
5. If you tear, or deface, or wrongly mark this ballot, return it and obtain another.

Ballot for mayor and trustees of New Hyde Park. Benedict Hauck was nominated by both parties.

7 - Benedick Hauck

Contributed by Theresa Farina Hauck and Theresa Hauck

Benedick Hauck came with his parents from Germany and settled in Elmont, N.Y. Ben was born in April 1873. Like so many of the Germans who came to this country at that time, they were devout Catholics and educated their children at the St. Boniface Parochial School. Ben met his future wife at church and married Elizabeth Schweitzer in 1896. The young couple moved to New Hyde Park and Ben supported his growing family as a painter. Though being busy, he never failed to participate in church and community affairs. Catholics were holding their masses upstairs at Millers Hall and, as there were quite a number of families, they organized a drive to build a church.

Benedick Hauck residence.
1st Avenue

Ben was one of the original supporters of the Holy Spirit Roman Catholic Church. He also was a member of the Board of Trade.

The Village incorporated in 1927 and both competing parties nominated him as a candidate to the Office of Trustee. He served in that capacity for three terms. Later he accepted the job as Superintendent of Highways and retired in the late 50's. Ben died in New Hyde Park, July 1967.

Ben and Elizabeth had eight children.

Henry (1897-1960) served in WWI. He worked for the post office and as a custodian at Sewanhaka High School.

Julia (1899) married Zeblinski.

Rudolph (1901-1978) was a driver for a milk company.

Elizabeth (1905-1957) married Rottkamp Farmer.

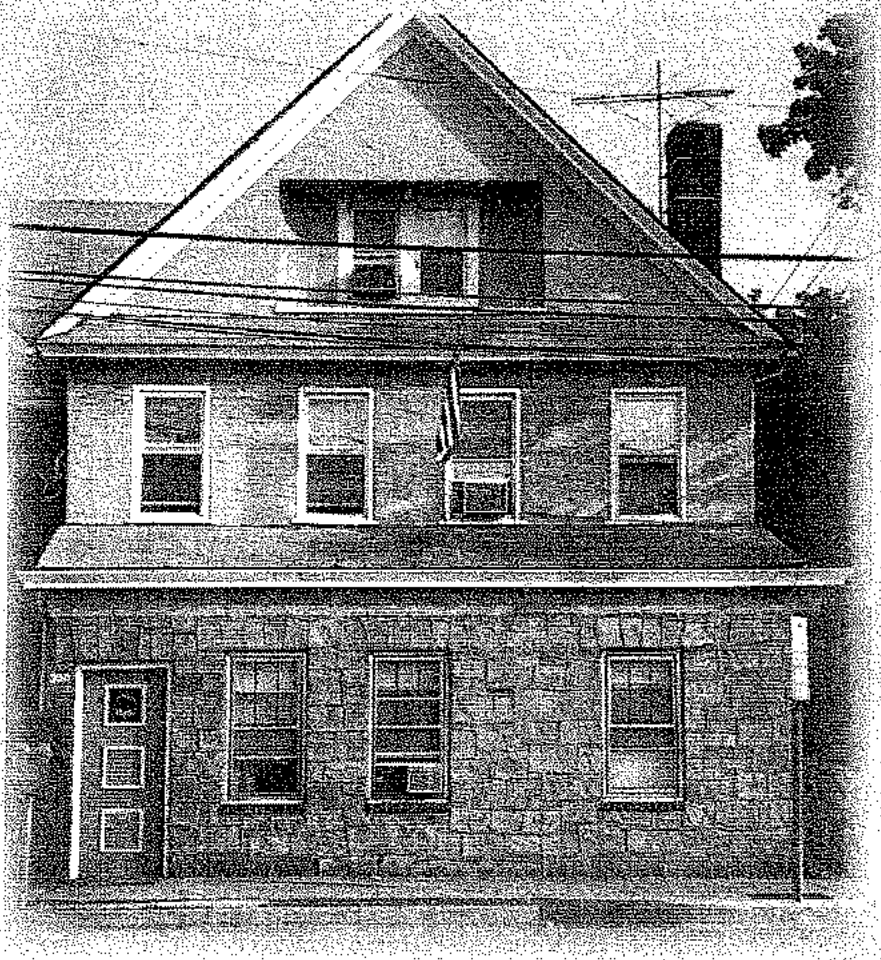
Benedick, Jr. (1908-1984) worked as a painter for Levit.

Clement (1910-1989) worked for Gartrell Motors.

Joseph (1912-1987) married Theresa Farina and worked for Mack Truck Co., was a painter and involved in the New Hyde Park Fire Dept.

Theresa Hauck (1920) lives in New Hyde Park.

Benedick Hauck's children were also active, mostly in the Fire Dept. However, they can't match the involvement and enthusiasm of their father.



Residence and dry goods store of Aaron Holman.
300 Jericho Turnpike

Aaron Holman would travel from farm to farm, sleeping in the hay lofts of the barns, eating with families and developing a following. People would give him orders for his next trip out, and in this way he eventually built a business. He was a very likable, trustworthy and exceedingly kind person; so people took to him very easily.

8 - Aaron Holman

Contributed by Evelyn Holman (daughter of Aaron) and Gary Holman (grandson of Aaron)

Aaron Holman was born in Vitesbek, Russia, in 1874. At 15 he was drafted into The Russian Army, obtaining an honorable discharge at the age of 17. He arrived in the U.S. before the turn of the century and settled on the east side of NYC. He became a peddler, selling whatever he could carry (yard goods, notions, etc.), and selected the country (New Hyde Park and Garden City Park) for his territory - all farmers.

Most Jewish foreigners settled on the east side of New York City when they arrived in the U.S. There were many meeting places where they could gather, communicate and make friends. My father went to the one that represented his homeland. He met Chaim Fahrman who had known my father's family in Russia. They became friends, and my father was invited to Chaim's home for dinner. He met his family and was attracted to Liba (my mother) who was only 14 years old at the time. After a time, he asked to marry her. My grandparents consulted her and she consented. But my grandmother made conditions, Liba could not marry until she was 16 years old, and she couldn't have children until she was 18 years old. My father consented to these terms, and so they married when Liba became 16 years old.

After the wedding, the couple went to Garden City Park to live. They rented a house there and, as my mother sewed very well, she made dresses, aprons, etc. which my father sold to his customers. They accumulated enough cash to buy a horse and wagon - no more pack on the back for my father. Not long afterwards, they rented (from Mr. Wiggins who lived on Lakeville Road) a house in New Hyde Park on the corner of 9th Street and Jericho Turnpike. This house had a store in the front, with living quarters in the back and upstairs. They did very well with this store. The farmers and their families now came to the store to buy their supplies. The town had a population of Germans and many Polish people who were construction workers, shop keepers, etc. They all shopped at my parent's store. My parents learned to speak Polish. Eventually the Polish people began to trust and love my father implicitly. In essence, he became their "Godfather."

My parent's next move was to a much larger house and store on the corner of 10th Street and Jericho Turnpike. I was born in that house. The farmers and their families would come to shop. They would hitch their horses to the posts in front of the store. Business was good. My parents purchased this house and several other properties in the town.

My father was a member of the firefighters of the New Hyde Park Fire Department (there were only six or seven members). My brother David was the mascot. He was five or six years old at the time. Later on, my father helped organize the Bank of New Hyde Park and he was the Vice President of this bank. Eventually, he gave up the store and went into land development. We still maintained our living quarters in the house. After my brother was admitted to the bar, he opened a law office where the store had been.

In 1926, we moved to Mineola. David married, and not long after, moved into his own newly built home on 12th Street in New Hyde Park. In 1929, the great depression began. My parent's encountered adversity like many others. They tried to survive as best they could. My father opened a small beer parlor. Conditions were exceedingly bad. My father's health was failing. In 1936 they gave up all their remaining, dwindling assets and moved to California. My father died on March 4, 1941, at 66 years of age.

David Holman residence.
North 12th Street

9 - David Holman

I am about to write the biography of David Holman and, as I sit here, I reminisce about his life and times. One event in particular enters my mind: a speech he gave against the proposal to have an incinerator built in New Hyde Park on the site where we now have the pool and fitness center. His speech was so eloquent and convincing, that we in the audience thought we could smell the odor and see the flyash. Needless to say, the proposal was defeated.

Dave Holman spent all his life in public service. He was born July 20, 1904 in New Hyde Park in a house at 300 Jericho Turnpike and the corner of South 3rd Street where his dad had a dry goods store. The neighborhood children were his playmates, one of whom: Florence Strauss later became the Village Clerk. He had a sister Evelyn. His primary education was at the New Hyde Park public schools. He graduated from Hempstead High School and though his father was established by then, money still was scarce. So Dave went from High School right to Law School. He received his law degree from New York University but was too young to take the bar examination; therefore, he clerked for a year at a law firm. By the time he was 21, he not only was admitted to the bar, but even had a year of practical law experience behind him.

David Holman

After passing the Bar Examination, he started practicing law–first at his father's place of business at 300 Jericho Turnpike, and later he opened an office above the Altman Store in the 800 block on Jericho Turnpike.

Dave spoke Polish, so it was only natural for the Polish farmers to select him for their lawyer. But he was more than that. He was like a big brother to them, father-confessor, and advisor and ready to help. There was one young man, actually just a teenager, who was playing with a rifle and got into trouble with the police. The frantic parents called on Dave and he got the boy released into his custody. There was no record and the family remained grateful and loyal to Dave.

Another time, a group of young men congregated on Jericho Turnpike and Lakeville Road in front of the Diner. It was night, and their discussions became animated and heated. When the policeman asked them to break it up, they just continued. So they were arrested and landed in jail. A telephone

call to Dave brought him to their rescue. Again, he had them released into his custody, and they all became respectable citizens.

As a lawyer, Dave handled everything. He had to make a living, so of course there was a fee for his services, but many times, when people were hard up, he just forgot about charging them. And when his clients, friends or party members were troubled about something, they just came to his house to discuss their problems.

He built his home on North 12th Street in New Hyde Park where he lived with his wife Ethel Katz Holman and his children: Gary born Feb. 23, 1931 and Sandra born July 14, 1929, to the end of his life.

Dave Holman organized and founded the New Hyde Park Republican Club, whose first president was William A. Hausch and due to Dave's ceaseless activities on behalf of the club, the membership grew and New Hyde Park became the most important organization in North Hempstead. All republican candidates, from President Nixon and Governor Rockefeller to the local officials, made it their duty to stop at New Hyde Park. The second organization Dave founded in New Hyde Park was the Non-Partisan League, which was a Village Political Party.

In 1931 two new Trustees were elected to the Village Board: Cyril Cox and my father George Christ. They proposed Dave Holman to be the Counsel, while Marcus Christ took the job of Police Justice. With Dave a new era started in New Hyde Park. Dave was not on the sidelines, waiting to be asked about a legality of an ordinance or proposal. He took a very active part in guiding the Board. He was not only their village Attorney, he was also their protector. If an irate citizen came with a complaint, it was Dave who straightened him out and explained the law to him. He remained Village Attorney for the next 25 years. The thirties were the years of the great depression. Many people could not pay their property taxes and just abandoned their parcels. In this way Dave first acquired land where now the Village Garage is located. His next venture was to buy the school building on Jericho Turnpike and New Hyde Park Road for $25,000.00 to house the Village offices. The monies were raised through a bond issue. Dave Holman proposed a zoning plan: along Jericho Turnpike and Lakeville Road, 100 feet deep was zoned for business and along the railroad, 100 feet deep for industrial. The rest was zoned residential except for businesses that were already established.

Dave Holman was the driving force in the following zoning and acquisition projects:

Memorial Field: The land for our beautiful park was acquired through a tax sale. Edwin Russel donated 4 lots to the village, which became part of Memorial Field.

Parking Field on Lakeville Road.

Parking Field along the railroad on 3rd Avenue.

Brooklyn Avenue property for another parking field. Mayor Messina later changed it to a playground.

Rezoning of the Osipinski property, now New Hyde Park Funeral Home.

Rezoning of the Baer property for industrial use along 3rd Ave.

Rezoning of Triangle Sheet Metal property.

All those acquisitions and rezonings were done by Dave Holman with taxpayers in mind. We were in the depression and industry could easier afford paying taxes. Besides, there were no children from the factories to be educated in our schools. Dave Holman was a very conservative man. Through all those years while he was not only the attorney, but the architect of the future for the village, the tax rate remained at 99 cents per hundred. Of course, all those acquisitions and zonings required a lot of legal work, which Dave did at little cost.

There was one unsuccessful project. Dave thought of having our own electric power plant. The proposition was put on the ballot and the villagers voted for it. But the project was abandoned as being too costly.

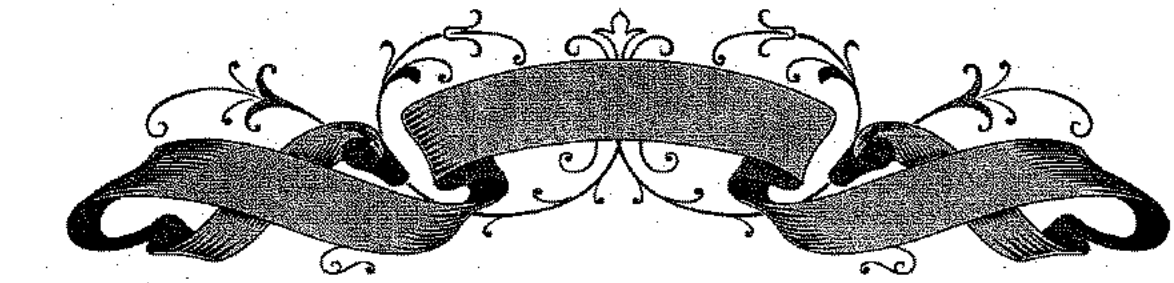
Dave knew his clients and he knew the villagers. They were honest, hard working people, having a difficult time during the depression. To make it easier for them to borrow money he founded the Fidelity Credit Union. Later, much later, in the sixties he was one of the four original founders of the State Bank of Long Island.

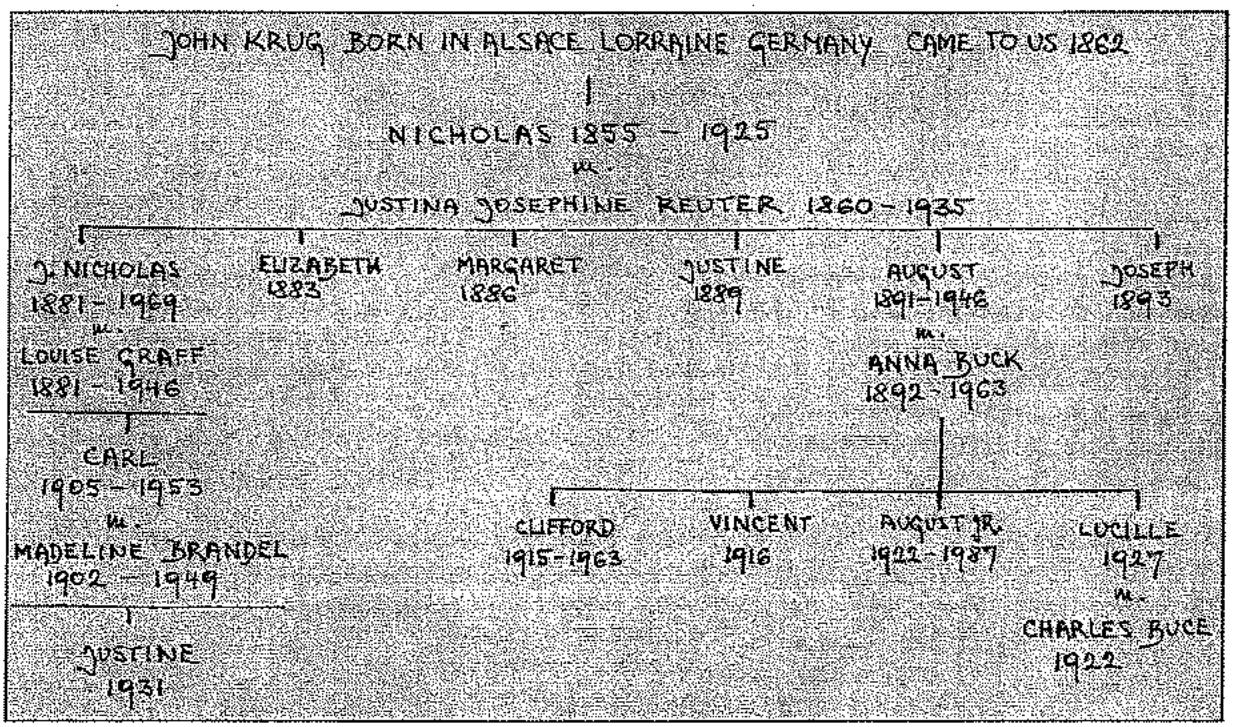
Amongst Dave Holman's other activities in the Village of New Hyde Park was Attorney for the Union Free School District No. 5. That greatly facilitated the acquisition of the building on Jericho Turnpike. He was a fireman and the Attorney for the Fire District. When President Roosevelt was elected and the WPA established, Dave petitioned the government and it was then, that many of our residential streets received sidewalks.

He must have enjoyed working. As I said before, he was right in the midst of everything. He familiarized himself with everything, never missed a meeting and was always planning for the future. As I am writing all this, which I all know from personal experience, I am impressed anew with the man who was Dave Holman. You might think that what I have conveyed so far is more than one man can handle, but that is not all. These are only his activities in New Hyde Park. In addition, he was Chief Prosecuting Attorney in the Nassau County District Attorney's Office from the 1930's until his retirement in 1952.

He was always planning. He was always striving and, even in the face of adversity, he never gave up. Yet through all the years, the nomination to the Supreme Court eluded him. It was only after many, many years of public service that he received the nomination and in 1968 was elected to the bench of the New York State Supreme Court, where he served until his death in December 1969.

Epilogue - *There is a Marcus Avenue to honor Judge Marcus Christ. We have an Ingraham Lane and a Herkomer Street. A Baer Place, a Millers Lane, a Hoffmann Road and a Denton Avenue. There is no street sign for David Holman. With this biography, I want to pay tribute to a remarkable man who, more than anyone else, shaped the Village of New Hyde Park.*





Hon. J. Nicholas Krug

Mayor 1927-1931

New Hyde Park—Services will be held today for J. Nicholas Krug, 88, a retired insurance agent and the first mayor of the Village of New Hyde Park, who died Saturday in Syosset General Hospital, after a short illness.

Krug, who until three years ago lived at 635 Jericho Tpke., served two terms as mayor between 1927 and 1931. In successive years he served as a member and later president of the New Hyde Park School Board. At one time he operated a hotel adjacent to the Long Island Rail Road station and prior to the depression he built several housing developments in the area.

In 1930, he and his son, now deceased, established the J. Nicholas Krug Insurance Agency which is still in operation on Jericho Turnpike. At the time of his death he was a member of the New Hyde Park Fire Department, the Holy Name Society of the Holy Spirit Church, the Knights of Columbus and a retired member of the Lions Club. Krug was also trustee of the New Hyde Park Bank.

Since his retirement three years ago he resided at 10 Ships Lane, Bayville, with his daughter and only survivor, Miss Justine A. Krug.

Solemn Requiem Mass will be held at Holy Spirit Church, Wednesday at 9:30 AM. Burial will follow in Holy Rood Cemetery, Westbury.

10 - The Krug Family

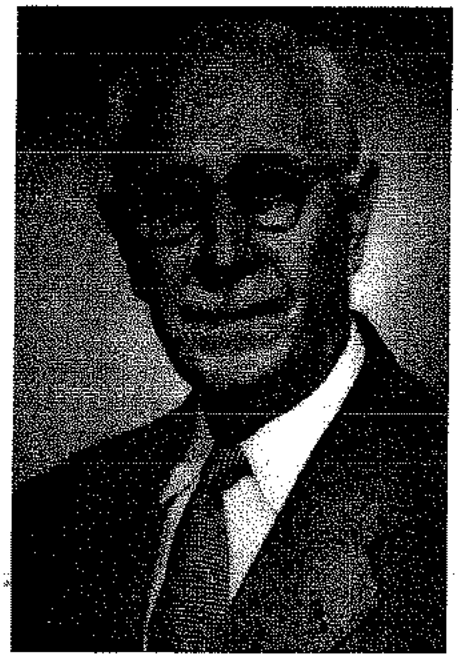
Contributor Lucille Krug Buce

Like so many others in New Hyde Park, the Krug family came from Germany. John Krug was born in Alsace Lorraine and was a carpenter by trade. When he emigrated to the U.S. in 1862, he was already married and had a seven-year-old son by the name of Nicholas. This Nicholas was the father of our first Mayor.

John, his wife and son, Nicholas, settled in Fosters Meadow, which is now Elmont and taught his son the carpenter trade. Nicholas, as was custom at the time, was working alongside his father and they prospered. Eventually, Nicholas struck out on his own. He had met Justina Reuter, who was from New Hyde Park and, after marrying her in 1880, he moved to her hometown. They lived in the farm house, corner of 3rd Ave. and South 12th Street. Their first son, J. Nicholas, was born in 1881, and five more children were to follow: Elizabeth 1883, Margaret 1886, Justine 1889, and two more sons, August 1891 and Joseph 1893.

J. Nicholas Krug First Mayor of New Hyde Park

Nicholas and his wife Justina wanted their children brought up as Catholics, so when young J. Nicholas was of school age he attended St. Boniface School. The school was in Fosters Meadow, and because of the distance, he had to be brought there by horse and buggy. And, because that was a time consuming trip and the elders had to attend to their work, J. Nicholas was left at the convent. As the other children became of age, they too were enrolled at the same school and lived at the same convent. Of course, the children were there only during the week. Sunday afternoons they took the buggy ride and were picked up on Friday to come home for the weekend.



Hon. J. Nicholas Krug, First Mayor of New Hyde Park.

Young J. Nicholas didn't do just school work but, along with his brothers, was taught carpentry and the building trade. All the fathers at that time had their children helping them to become skillful at some handy work.

When J. Nicholas was 23, he was well prepared to make a living for himself and start a family. He married Louise Graff in 1904, and the following year a son Carl was born. The year 1907 brought

1925 - J. Nicholas Krug Real Estate & Insurance.
1115 Jericho Turnpike

1996
1115 Jericho Turnpike

another economic downturn, and there was not much demand for builders or carpenters. J. Nicholas was forced to look for other employment and found it as a driver for the Adolph Hausch Bakery. When the situation started to improve in 1910, he acquired from Nicholas Reuter the Inn and Dance Hall on the corner of Millers Lane and 2nd Avenue and renamed it the "J. Nicholas Krug's Inn and Dance Hall." The locals just called it "Krug's Hall." It was a very popular place with young people, and many of them met their future spouses there.

Once again there was a reversal in J. Nicholas Krug's fortune. Congress passed the Volstead Act (18th Amendment). Mothers, wives and women in general were fighting very hard for it and were jubilant to have succeeded. Their victory was the defeat of all saloons, inns and all the watering places. Krug Hall was closed, and J. Nicholas went back to his old trade of building houses. In New Hyde Park, he built on South 12th Street, Millers Lane, Ingraham Lane and Herkomer Street. By now his son Carl was 15 years old and became his father's helper.

During all those years, J. Nicholas was involved in community affairs. In 1925 he started a new venture. He was a builder, so it was natural to go into the real estate business and, as insurance is tied to it, he also became an insurance man. He opened an office at 1115 Jericho Turnpike, and his son became his associate.

The Village of New Hyde Park has grown. It consisted of many more families than the original ten. Up until now, people discussed community affairs among themselves and came to a collective decision. It was a way that wasn't practical anymore and various organizations felt the need for a local government. The Village was to be incorporated and candidates for Mayor and Trustees selected.

There were two parties: The Citizen Party and The Public Affairs Part. J. Nicholas Krug ran for Mayor. He was known and greatly respected by the whole village and was endorsed by both parties. The other candidate who received cross endorsement was Ben Hauck who was running for Trustee. So, 1927 saw the birth of the Incorporation of the Village of New Hyde Park with J. Nicholas Krug as its first Mayor. The first village taxes were collected in 1928.

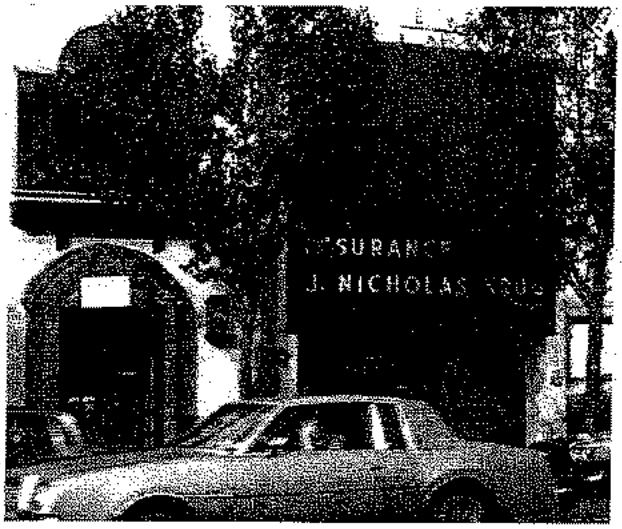
One of the first undertakings of the administration was the improvement and paving of the sidewalks on both sides of Jericho Turnpike. And that's when the administration had its first scandal. No, the village fathers didn't do anything wrong; it was the contractor who mixed too much sand into the concrete and delivered an inferior product.

J. Nicholas Krug took his job very seriously, but after four years he wanted to devote more time to his business and did not seek re-election. The village community appreciated a job well done.

His insurance business was growing and he moved in 1930 to a new locale at 635 Jericho Turnpike. The J. Nicholas Krug Insurance Agency is still at the same address, but completely modernized.

It was a bleak and sad time for J. Nicholas Krug in 1953, when his only son Carl died. He himself was already an old man and a widower. He lived through good and hard times, achieved success and standing in the community, and now his dream of passing on his business to the next generation was shattered. It was the "Krug" agency, and he wanted to see a "Krug" in it. Luckily his brother August had a son Clifford who, along with Lucille's husband Charles Buce, was willing to join the agency. They became associate partners.

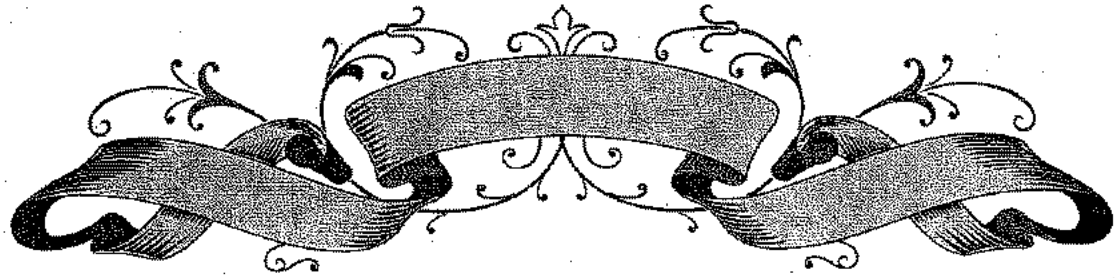
J. Nicholas Krug had a long and fruitful life. He died in 1969. His last 3 years he lived with his granddaughter Justine in Bayville, Long Island.

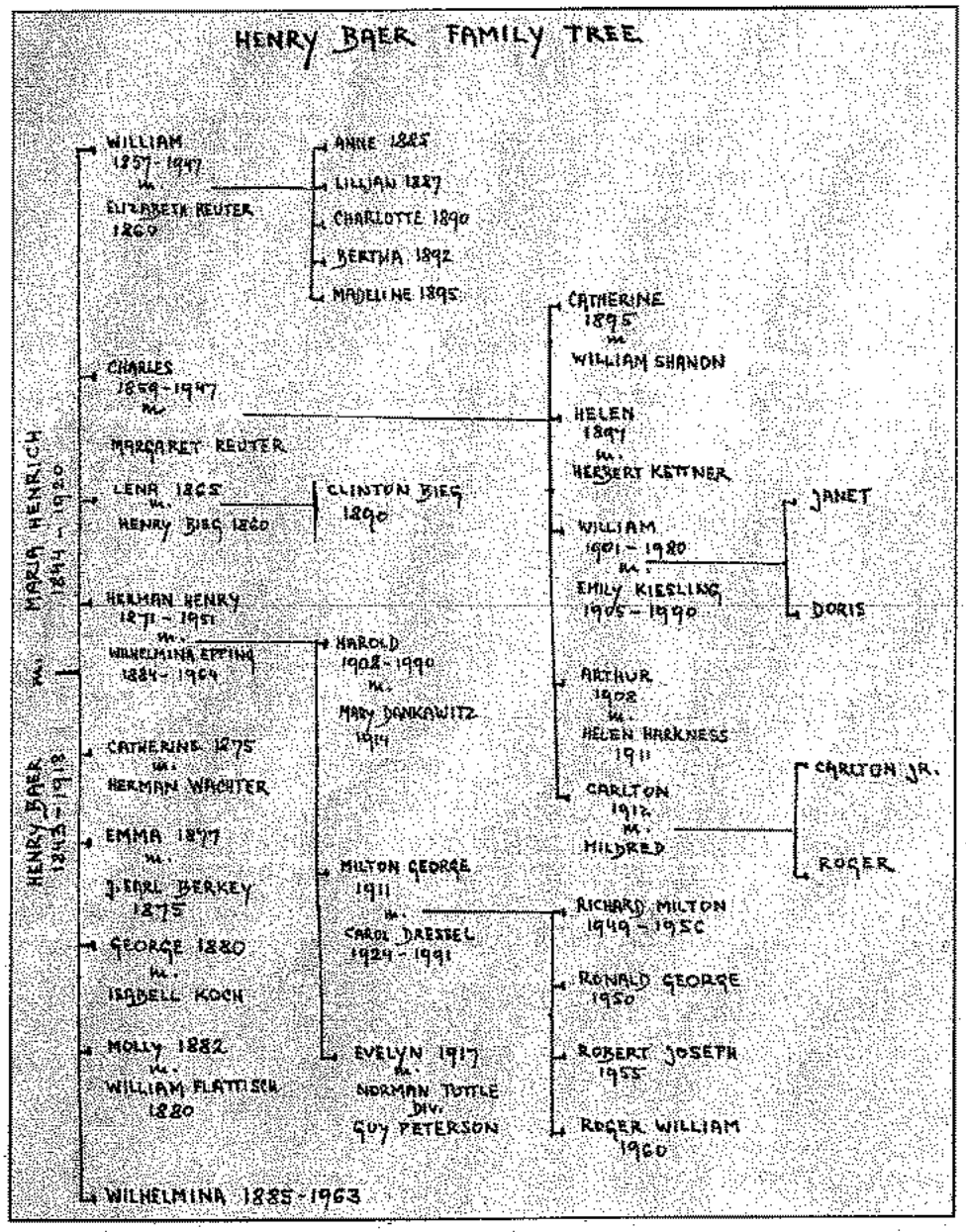


1996 - J. Nicholas Krug Insurance. 635 Jericho Turnpike

Members of the Krug Family

Our first Mayor's brother Joseph left New Hyde Park and moved to Rockville Centre where he opened an ice cream parlor. His other brother August (1891-1946) stayed in New Hyde Park and married Anna Buck. All of his four children were born here. When World War I broke out, he was called to serve his country. Like his father and grandfather, August was a skilled builder and carpenter and taught his sons. Therefore, when preparation for the World's Fair in Flushing Meadow got underway, both Krugs–August Sr. and August Jr.–received jobs as carpenters (1938-1939). All three sons of August and Anna–Clifford, Vincent and August Jr.–served oversees in World War II. August Jr. was wounded and lost an eye in the Black Forest in Germany. After returning home, all three of them had jobs in the New Hyde Park Post Office. Clifford left in order to run the insurance business with his uncle, J. Nicholas Krug. The only daughter Lucille, together with her husband Charles Buce, joined them and worked there until their retirement. There is no Krug working in the office, but the insurance company still exists.




HENRY BAER FAMILY TREE
HENRY BAER 1843 - 1918
m.
MARIA HENRICH 1841 - 1920
WILLIAM 1857 - 1947
m.
ELIZABETH REUTER 1860
ANNE 1885
LILLIAN 1887
CHARLOTTE 1890
BERTHA 1892
MADELINE 1895
CHARLES 1859 - 1947
m.
MARGARET REUTER
LENA 1865
m.
HENRY BIEG 1860
CLINTON BIEG 1890
HERMAN HENRY 1871 - 1951
m.
WILHELMINA EPPING 1884 - 1964
CATHERINE 1875
m.
HERMAN WACHTER
EMMA 1877
m.
J. EARL BERKEY 1875
GEORGE 1880
m.
ISABELL KOCH
MOLLY 1882
m.
WILLIAM FLATTISCH 1880
WILHELMINA 1885 - 1963
HAROLD 1908 - 1990
m.
MARY DONKAWITZ 1914
MILTON GEORGE 1911
m.
CAROL DRESSEL 1924 - 1991
EVELYN 1917
m.
NORMAN TUTTLE
DIV.
GUY PETERSON
CATHERINE 1895
m.
WILLIAM SHANON
HELEN 1897
m.
HERBERT KETTNER
WILLIAM 1901 - 1980
m.
EMILY KIESLING 1905 - 1990
JANET
DORIS
ARTHUR 1902
m.
HELEN HARKNESS 1911
CARLTON 1912
m.
MILDRED
CARLTON JR.
ROGER
RICHARD MILTON 1949 - 1950
RONALD GEORGE 1950
ROBERT JOSEPH 1955
ROGER WILLIAM 1960

11 - The Baer Family

Contributed by Carol Dressel Baer

Henry Baer was born in Darmstadt, Germany on April 9, 1843, and like so many other Germans in the second half of the last century, he left his native country and came to the USA in 1878. He was married to Maria Henrich (November 10, 1844- July 20, 1920) and already the father of 6 children. Three more were born in America.

One has to wonder about the courage of all those immigrants to leave relatives and friends and all familiar places where they spent their childhood and just move to a foreign land. Maybe the regime was too oppressive, or maybe there were just too many stories about the golden land where one can make a fortune. Whatever the reason, Henry came to New Hyde Park and found shelter with the Reuters at their Inn. Like all immigrants they worked hard and eventually bought land, built a house and took part in community affairs. They eventually built a home on South 12th Street.

Henry and Maria's nine children included:

William married Louise Reuter, and they had five daughters: Anne, Lillian, Charlotte, Bertha and Madeline. William was a carpenter.

Charles was born in Frankfurt on the Rhine, Germany, April 1, 1859, and died in New Hyde Park, NY on May 2, 1947, at the age of 78. He married Margaret Reuter on December 28, 1893, in New Hyde Park, NY. They had five children: Catherine, Helen, William, Arthur and Carlton. Charles worked for the John Lewis Childs Company in Floral Park until they went out of business in 1929 when the depression hit the country.

Lena married a man named Bieg, and they had one son, Clinton.

Herman married Wilhemina Epping, and they had three children: Harold, Milton and Evelyn.

Catherine was three years old when they arrived from Germany in 1878. She married Herman Wachter, and they had four children.

The three youngest were born in New Hyde Park, NY: Emma married J. Earle Berkey; George married Aunt Belle late in life; and Wilhemina never married.

Uncle Nick always told me of the Baer's arrival in New Hyde Park. It seems they intended to stay with a friend, but found he tended horses for rich people on the north side of town and had no home. As they had no place to go, the Reuters, who owned the hotel at the Station, took them in. The Reuters would be Uncle Nick and Bill Baer's grandparents. The Baer's must have brought the two girls and maybe William with them and left Herman and Charles in Germany to come over alone later. Charles (Grandpa) always said he came here when he was 16 which would have been in 1885. Herman told his family that he came over alone at eight years of age.

Emma Christ, George E. Christ, Milton Baer and Carol Christ.

Helen Kettner

Mrs. Helen Kettner, a bookkeeper for the John Lewis Child Company, Floral Park, when her father, Charles Baer, was general manager, died Monday in Nassau Hospital, Mineola, after a brief illness.

Mrs. Kittner, whose home was at 533 North Second street, New Hyde Park, was born there 42 years ago. She was active in the Dutch Reformed Church.

Besides her father, she leaves her husband, Herbert; her mother, Mrs. Marget Baer; a sister, Mrs. Katherine Shannon, and three brothers, Carlton, William and Arthur Baer.

Services will be held at 8 o'clock tonight in the funeral home of Thomas F. Dalton, 29 Atlantic avenue, Floral Park. The Rev. David Weidner will officiate.

Burial will be in Greenfields Cemetery, Hempstead.

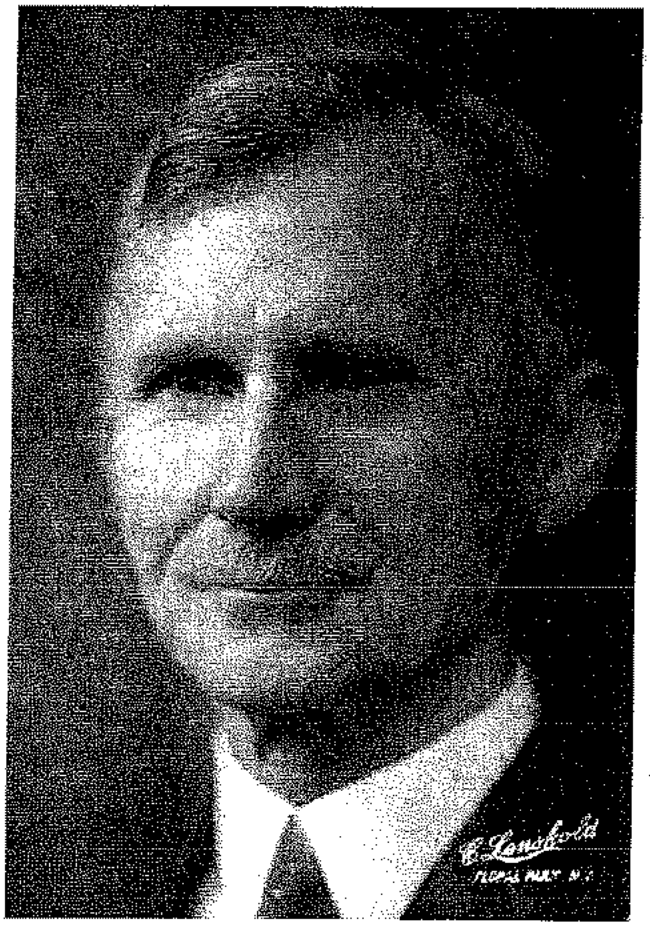
Helen Baer Kettner, granddaughter of Henry and Maria.

Milton Baer, grandson of Henry and Maria.

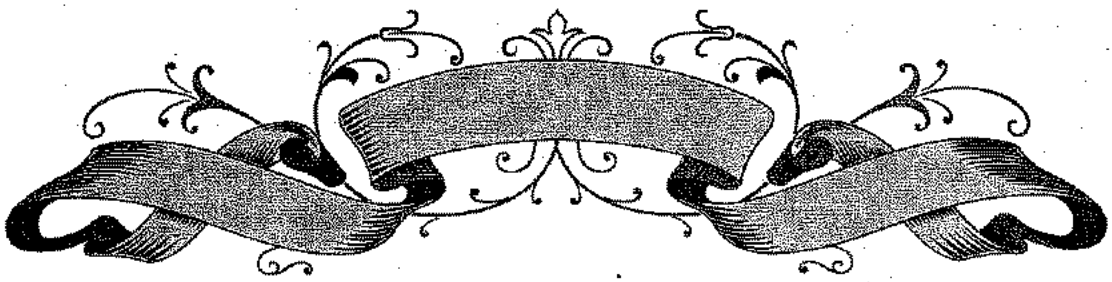
Herman Baer

Herman (1871-1951) and George became florists. They first worked in Floral Park for Allen Florist and later they had their own business and raised gladiolus and chrysanthemums. They sold their blooms in New York City and Herman went by train at five in the morning and returned by eight. Although he didn't have much free time, he nevertheless became very active in the community. When the village was incorporated in 1927, Herman was elected Trustee. Four years later, when then Mayor Nicholas Krug choose not to seek re-election, Herman Baer was nominated, elected, and became our second Mayor.

He was affiliated with the following organizations: The Shield of Honor, U.S. Flag Association, The Board of Trade, New Hyde Park Fire Department, New Hyde Park School Board and The First Reformed Church. His son Milton still lives in the village in a charming cottage, which is the oldest house in New Hyde Park. Up to his retirement at the age of 80, he was active in the New Hyde Park administration.



Hon. Herman H. Baer, 2nd Mayor of New Hyde Park.



CHARLES AND CATHERINE HOFFMANN FAMILY TREE

CHARLES HOFFMANN 1850 - 1927
m.
CATHERINE 1861 - 1922

- EMIL OTTO 1880 - 1939
- MARY - LOUISE 1882 - 1912
- JOHN WILLIAM 1886 - 1947
  - m. CLARA DIED 1911
  - m. ELIZABETH 1891 - 1989
- MAE 1904 - 1943
  - m. ALBERT DE MARCO
    - RUTH
    - DORIS
    - JEAN
    - ALBERT JR.
    - RICHARD
    - LOIS
- MILDRED 1910 - 1969
  - m. GEORGE SIMON 1907
    - DONALD 1935
- AMELIA 1915 - 1993
- AMELIA ELIZABETH 1890 - 1955
- CHARLES JR. 1895 - 1970
  - m. AGNES HAUSCH 1896 - 1933
- IRENE MAE 1920
  - m. RICHARD LA TORRE DIED 1993
    - RICHARD II
      - RICHARD III
    - RALPH
- LORRAINE 1931

WILLIAM HOFFMAN 1863 - 1939
m.
IDA 1876 - 1964

CAME WITH BROTHER CHARLES FROM GERMANY

12 - The Hoffmann Family

Most of the immigrants who came from Germany and eventually landed in the hamlet of Hyde Park had some kind of mechanical skill. Charles Hoffmann was a farmer and after arriving in the USA along with his brother William, he sought work on a farm. We don't know why he came to this particular place. Maybe because there already were several Germans living in this area, and rich farm land was available. He rented a farm from Augustus Denton and grew potatoes, beans, carrots, peas, beets and corn. The farm boundaries were from the Village of New Hyde Park border east to Denton Ave. and from Jericho Turnpike north to Evergreen Ave.

Augustus Denton knew he had good land, but he never realized how good it really was. He was sitting on a goldmine. No, not the shining metal, but sand. Beautiful, clean sand, which was eventually mined. Thousands upon thousands of yards of sand were removed from an area north of the railroad tracks to almost Hillside Ave. The sand was shipped to New York City and used in the building trade. So we can say New Hyde Park helped in the development of the "Big Apple."

Charles remained at the farm and was later helped by his growing sons. He and his wife, Catherine, had five children.

Charles and Louisa Denton residence, 1823; Charles and Catherine Hoffmann residence, 1880. Corner of Denton Avenue and Jericho Turnpike

John William Hoffmann

One of Charles Hoffmann's sons, J. William, who was born in 1886, is of interest to us. As a boy, he started to work on the farm, and little did he think that one day he would aspire to elective office. He was a good farmer and, when he came of age, he went into business for himself. From Mr. Taft, he leased a farm on the NE corner of Jericho Turnpike and New Hyde Park Road and became a potato farmer. About the same time he married a young lady by the name of Clara. Farming is hard work, and it takes a long time for the produce to grow. Many times after the harvest there is only a limited market for it. J. William was not only a good farmer, but also a successful salesman and was always able to find buyers. He and his wife Clara had two daughters: Mae born 1908 and Mildred born 1910. Clara died in 1911. J. William remarried in 1913 to Elizabeth, and another daughter, Amelia, was born in 1915.

J. William was content to be a farmer. He had a nice family, the ground was fertile and he was able to sell his produce. Then in the 1920's, much to his surprise, the farm was sold to a developer. He had to leave. At 1529 Jericho Turnpike, the foundation of that old farmhouse is still there, but the house itself is completely changed and modernized. Philip J. Christ offered him a job as a seed salesman for his company and, when Frank Garvey bought the Christ Store, he continued in his job with the new owner. Frank Garvey renamed the business the "Long Island Seed Co." J. William also worked for George Stattel. Now that he was no longer isolated on a farm, he started to be active in the community. He was a faithful member of his church on South 9th Street and built his house on the same street.

J. William Hoffmann converted farmhouse, 1925 - Blue Goose Inn, 1996 - Business Offices. 1529 Jericho Turnpike

Hon. J. William Hoffmann, Mayor of New Hyde Park. 1943-1947

J. William Hoffmann residence. South 9th Street

Village Pays Last Respects to Hoffman

New Hyde Park—Last respects were paid to Mayor J. William Hoffman, when his body was borne through here on the way to Greenfield Cemetery, Hempstead, yesterday followed by a cortege a mile long.

All schools were closed at 10 o'clock to allow the children to see the procession, which wound through the village to pass fire headquarters on Millers Ln., and the village hall on Jericho Tpke. All flags in the village were at half-mast.

The cortege left Dalton's Funeral Parlor, Floral Park, headed by a Nassau County Police escort of two cars, two Fire Dept. trucks and a car filled with flowers.

In the procession were Acting Mayor William S. Dillon and Trustees Arthur Elbert, John L. Durson and Wilfred Bowa, Florence A. Strauss, village clerk and David Holman, village attorney.

As the cortege neared fire headquarters, the firemen on the two trucks formed a company and marched in the procession.

When the Fire Department was organized, he became a Fire Commissioner. In 1927 he ran for office and was elected Trustee of the Village of New Hyde Park and later served as the third Mayor. He was greatly respected and known for his hard work. He passed on in 1947.

Charles C. Hoffmann

Like his brothers and sisters who grew up on the farm, Charles had to help very early on and learned

Charles Hoffmann Jr. residence. Herkomer Street

hard work. Their family was living in the old Denton homestead and as they did not own the house and land, they had no say over their use and development. Charles worked on the farm until 1928 when Denton sold out to a developer. He found a new job with the Village of New Hyde Park as chief truck driver. Like his older brother, J. William, he joined the New Hyde Park Fire Department in 1915 and served in the Enterprise Hose Co. for over 50 years. In 1919 he married Agnes Hausch and built a house at 16 Herkomer Street. Charles and Agnes had two daughters–Irene Mae in 1920 and Lorraine in 1931.

In 1933, Agnes died, and Charles became a widower with two young daughters. Lorraine being only two years old at that time. His sister Amelia Elizabeth never married and was willing to move in and take care of the children and the household.

Obituaries

Charles C. Hoffman
Pioneer Farmer

Charles C. Hoffmann, 74, a life-long resident of New Hyde Park and member of one of the community's first farming families, died yesterday in Nassau Hospital, Mineola. He lived at 16 Herkimer Street.

Mr. Hoffman was the last surviving member of one of the original farming families in the New Hyde Park area. Before his retirement he was employed by the Village of New Hyde Park.

He was a 55-year member of the New Hyde Park Fire Department and former captain of Enterprise Engine Company, No. 1. Fire Department services will be held at 7:30 p.m. Monday at the New Hyde Park Funeral Home.

Mr. Hoffmann leaves two daughters, Mrs. Irene LaTorre of Bedford, Mass., Lorraine Hoffmann of New Hyde Park and two grandchildren.

After the girls grew up, Irene married and moved to Massachusetts. Lorraine still lives at 16 Herkomer Street. She is a retired physical education teacher.

Amelia Elizabeth Hoffmann

Amelia Elizabeth Hoffmann, as discussed, moved in with her brother Charles and helped raise his daughters after his wife passed away. Amelia never married.

Emil Hoffmann

Emil (1880-1938) was a farmer all his life. He first worked with his father and later on other farms. He never married.

Mary Louise Hoffmann

Mary Louise (1882-1912) remained single and died at the age of 30.

Wilfred H. Bowen residence.
Herkomer Street

13 - The Bowen Family

When the first German settlers arrived in New Hyde Park, the Wilfred Bowen family was already well established on Long Island. They were of English descent and their lifestyle was of the upper class. They lived in a mansion and had their children privately educated.

George Bowen

The Bowen's son George, who was born in 1868, loved animals and showed great interest in their care. He entered college and received a degree in veterinary medicine. His parents bought him a 5-acre plot to serve as grazing land and on which he established an animal hospital to care for the livestock of the surrounding farmers. The location was what is now Garden City Park and though the land is now developed, there is still an animal hospital on the site.

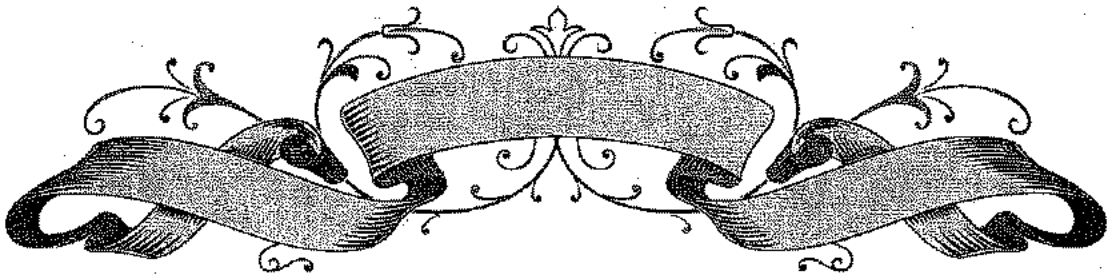
George was very well liked and, once the population grew and people acquired pets, "Doc Bowen" also took care of cats and dogs. Doc married in 1886, and he and his wife Etta had three children: Martha born in 1887, followed by Joseph and Wilfred born in 1894.

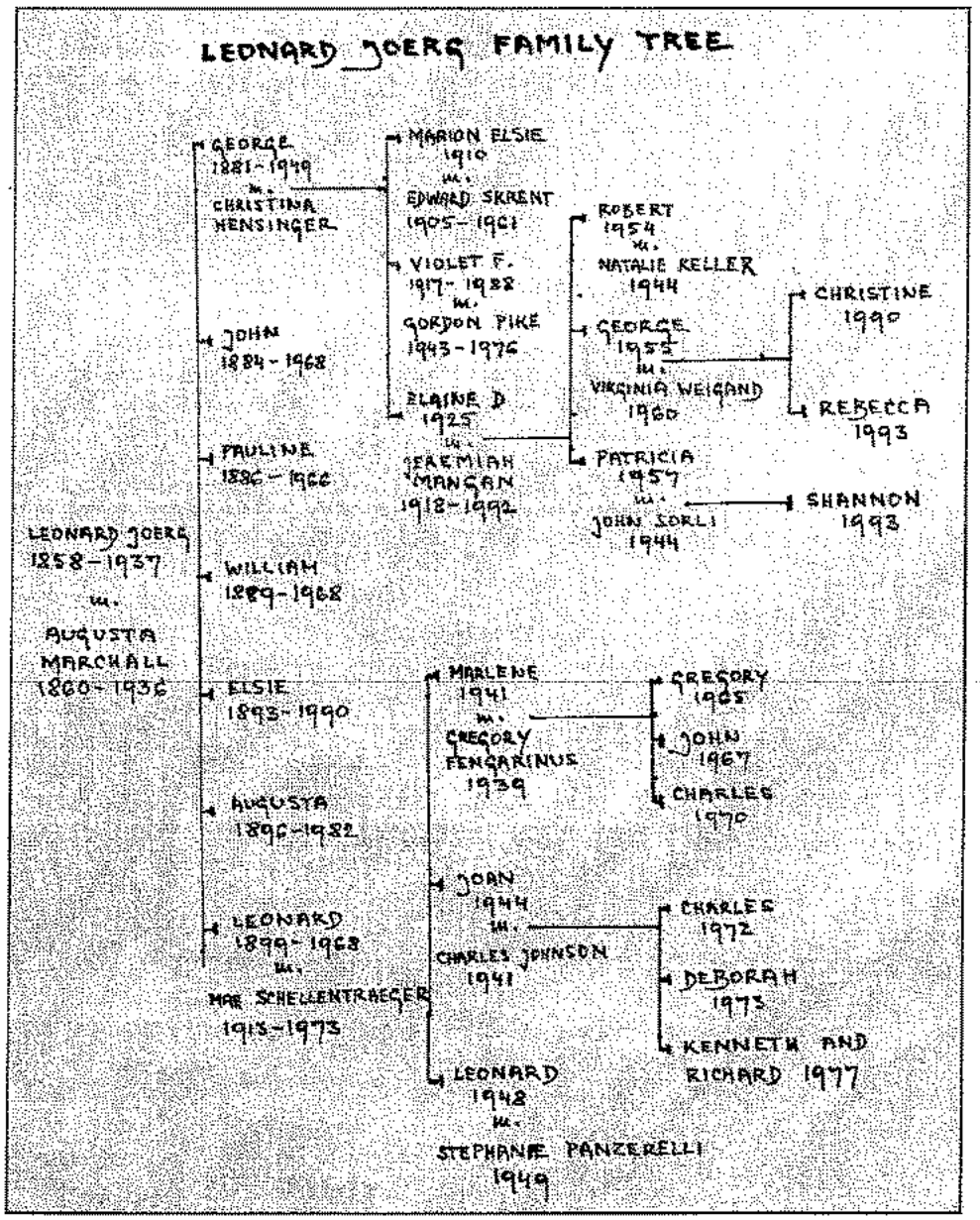
Wilfred H. Bowen

Unlike his father, Wilfred did not get a private education, but went to school in New Hyde Park. And, unlike his father, he was not interested in animals. But, he loved cars and, just like all young people, was fascinated by them. He became an auto-electrician and with his partner Collier formed a company: "Bowen-Collier, Auto Electrician." The firm was first located on his father's land, but later he moved it to Floral Park. Wilfred married in 1922 and settled with his bride on Herkomer Street. He bought an expensive car and was not only the first in New Hyde Park, but also for a very long time, the only car owner in the village.

Wilfred became the fourth mayor in New Hyde Park and the first one other than a German. He served in that office from 1947 to 1949. During World War I, he served as corporal in the 136th Aero Squad in Texas. He also was Vice President at the Fidelity Credit Union. He never moved from New Hyde Park where he passed away in 1970.

Hon. Wilfred H. Bowen,
Mayor of New Hyde Park (1947-1949).




LEONARD JOERG FAMILY TREE
LEONARD JOERG
1858-1937
m.
AUGUSTA MARCHALL
1860-1936
GEORGE
1881-1949
m.
CHRISTINA HENSINGER
JOHN
1884-1968
PAULINE
1886-1966
WILLIAM
1889-1968
ELSIE
1893-1990
AUGUSTA
1896-1982
LEONARD
1899-1968
m.
MAE SCHELLENTRAEGER
1915-1973
MARION ELSIE
1910
m.
EDWARD SKRENT
1905-1961
VIOLET F.
1917-1988
m.
GORDON PIKE
1913-1976
ELAINE D
1925
m.
JEREMIAH MANGAN
1918-1992
ROBERT
1954
m.
NATALIE KELLER
1944
GEORGE
1955
m.
VIRGINIA WEIGAND
1960
PATRICIA
1957
m.
JOHN SORLI
1944
CHRISTINE
1990
REBECCA
1993
SHANNON
1993
MARLENE
1941
m.
GREGORY FENGARINUS
1939
GREGORY
1965
JOHN
1967
CHARLES
1970
JOAN
1944
m.
CHARLES JOHNSON
1941
CHARLES
1972
DEBORAH
1973
KENNETH AND RICHARD 1977
LEONARD
1948
m.
STEPHANIE PANZERELLI
1949

14 - The Joerg Family

Contributed by Elaine Joerg Mangan

Leonard Joerg arrived in this country in 1870 from Munich, Germany at the age of 12. Leonard was one of the few of his brothers and sisters to keep the spelling of their name. Most of them changed it to Yerk. He married Augusta Marshall in 1880. Augusta came from Ermila, near Breslau in Germany. Their home on South 12th Street was built for them in 1889 for $1500. The family lived there all their lives except for the 10 years in Flowerfield, when George lived there.

Leonard Joerg was one of the pioneers in the growing of gladiolus and was considered the best informed man on the gladiolus in this country. One writer, wrote, "Long Island is known as the pioneer of the gladiolus industry and New Hyde Park should be rightly called the capitol." Leonard was a grower and breeder for the Hallocks of the Child's strain when the first of these were brought over from Europe. He worked for Hallock, Son & Thorpe for 19 years and when John Lewis Childs, Floral Park, took over the Hallocks' stock, Leonard remained with Childs for the next 25 years becoming their foreman. Ten years of that time was spent at the 150 acres of Childs in Flowerfield from 1910 to 1920.

It is not surprising that Leonard Joerg's family of boys took to the same work. When Leonard moved

1926 - Joerg gladiolus field - Violet Joerg and Ethel Hersinger. New Hyde Park Road

to Flowerfield, George J. decided to break away and hired a piece of ground in addition to the patch behind his father's house and set to work as a gladioli grower. His ability to supply sound, healthy bulbs, true to name, put him in good standing with the trade. In 1919 he secured 27 acres in north New Hyde Park and with the help of his three brothers, John, William and Leonard Jr., cleared the wooded area of the property. The father then severed his connection with Flowerfield, and with his experience of more than 40 years, became the president of George J. Joerg, Inc., at the age of 65.

A concrete block storage house was built for the storage of the bulbs during the winter months. Two pot-bellied stoves kept it warm enough for the bulbs. In 1921 a house was built across the street for George J. and Christina (Hensinger) Joerg, by a cousin's husband, John O'Hearn of Hicksville, for $4,600.

1925 - Bulb house of George J. Joerg Inc. New Hyde Park Road

Summer 1943 - Barage Balloon on the Joerg property.

They grew more than 100 varieties of gladiolus and were most proud of the Joerg White. It had seven full flowers in perfect condition, the lower flower measuring 5 1/2 to 6 inches across. It was far ahead of all others in size, form and purity of color. It won first prize in 1922, 1923 and 1924 from the New York Horticultural Society and the AGS Trophy from the American Gladiolus Society in 1924. Among other favorites were Joerg's Yellow, Arlene and George J. Joerg, a pretty salmon pink.

Flowers were shipped from the basement of 11 South 12th Street to the flower market in New York City. Cut flowers were also sold from 1810 New Hyde Park Road to retailers at 35 to 50 cents a dozen and to wholesalers for 20 to 25 cents a dozen. Bulbs were shipped around the world.

AMONG OUR FLORISTS

Local Growers Supply all the World With Flowers and Bulbs

Joerg's New White

Long Island is known as the pioneer center of the gladiolus industry, and New Hyde Park should be rightly called the capitol.

Leonard Joerg is one of those pioneers. Over fifty years growing gladioli. Starting in 1880 with Halbucks, where he remained for eighteen years, then twenty-five years with John Lewis Childs, gave him that knowledge that has enabled the firm of George J. Joerg, Inc., to become one of the foremost and largest growers in the country. The firm of George J. Joerg, Inc., was formed about ten years ago with Leonard Joerg as president. Four sons with him now constitute this company. Previous to the formation George J. Joerg, from whose name the present firm was named was engaged in the growing of gladiolus previous to the incorporation of the firm of George J. Joerg, Inc. Today they devote about twenty acres to the growing and development of this beautiful flower. 18 new varieties have been originated and put on the market and several others are in process of development. The finest white gladiolus that is known (picture in this issue) was developed and put on the market and is known as Joerg's White, and has won many prizes where exhibited. Two other varieties that deserve mention are "Joerg's Yellow Prim" and "Joerg's Favorite". Their new catalogue, just off the press of "Publicity", lists over one hundred variaties, and it is yours for the asking. For those who want to start in a small way, they will send you an assortment of 100 bulbs for $3.00 or thirty for $1.00 (free delivery anywhere.) To those that wish to visit these gardens, they are located on New Hyde Park Road, about one half mile beyond the new school.

Wagner's Greenhouses

A visit to the immense greenhouses of Henry A. Wagner on the Lakeville Road is worth going miles to see.

Can you imagine 30,000 potted tulips all ready to bloom for Easter, or 5,000 potted lilies, which will be in bloom when you read this article? Not alone are lilies and tulips shown, but thousands of rose bushes, hydrangeas, hyacinths, cinerarias, geraniums, phoenix palms, rubber plants, cacti and ferns. One house is devoted to vegetable plants and bedding plants. Mr. Wagner has spent his whole life growing flowers and does a big wholesale as well as retail business. To see a store worth seeing visit his greenhouses on Sunday or any other day, and you will find it time well spent.

Thirty-five Years a Florist

Thirty-five years a florist and still going strong. Emil Durkin, the subject of this sketch, has been a florist all his life, or since he was big enough to work. Six years ago he came to Garden City Park and built two large greenhouses; since then he has erected five more that are filled to overflowing. His slogan "If it is Flowers, we grow them", is no misrepresentation. One house which is devoted almost exclusively to cinerarias is one magnificent sight; every color imaginable is shown. Carnations, roses, lilies and tulips, thousands of them, are shown. Vegetable and bedding plants are grown in great variaties and his wholesale trade is extensive. Cut flowers and designs he specializes in and can fill your order at short notice. Visitors are welcome at any time and he is glad to show you around. You should see this flower show before Easter, while the stock is complete, as after that time some kinds will be sold out.

Joerg Service Station.
Corner of Hillside Avenue and New Hyde Park Road

When Hillside Avenue was constructed in the 1930's, it split the farm in half. The Joerg's then built a service station on the Northwest corner which was operated by Leonard Jr. Leonard had lived with George for a time and went to the Brunswick Mechanics School in Brooklyn and fixed cars in his father's garage. He previously used his ability to repair and maintain the farm equipment. The service station is still in existence.

As the demand for housing moved east, the Joerg family gradually sold pieces of the farm, but maintained an area in the back and side of the service station as a nursery. In 1943 the Army Coast Artillery had a Barrage Balloon Battalion stationed a short distance from the farm. They were there to protect Sperry Gyroscope Co. from an aerial attack. They were there only a short time, and houses were built over the same area. The homeowners became regular customers of the nursery, which now sold trees, plants, bushes, seeds and flowers. With the coming of home building, it became impossible to rent land for the rotation of the gladiolus. Shortly after the death of George J. Joerg, the nursery was closed.

Leonard Joerg was patient, friendly, soft spoken, with a good sense of humor. He and Augusta raised chickens for home use in Flowerfield. He was a devoted husband and father. Leonard was not only a gladiolus genius, he was also hybridizing lilies, peonies and seedlings of all kinds. While working for John Lewis Childs, he introduced varieties of gladiolus that were bread winners for commercial florists, one of which he named, Augusta, after his wife. They were loving parents to their seven children. Leonard was also a volunteer fireman in New Hyde Park.

George and his brothers and sisters went to the little old white school house on New Hyde Park Road. He was shortstop on the village baseball team. George served on the election board for many years and also ran for office on one occasion. He and Christina were a devoted couple and worked side by side

Village Pioneer Passes Away

Leonard Joerg, one of the oldest residents of New Hyde Park, passed away at his home on South 12th Street, Wednesday.

Mr. Joerg was one of the pioneer residents of the Village, always popular and well liked. He specialized for years in the propagation of gladioli bulbs, and similar horticultural work. Mr. Joerg's hobby was the collection of Indian relics, and minerals, and the collection ranks high in both interest and value.

Surviving him are four sons, George J., Leonard C., John and William—and three daughters, Pauline, Elsie and Augusta.

Interment will be Sunday, April 24th.

Leonard Joerg residence.
South 12th Street

when it was necessary. The flowers would be cut early in the morning and Christina was ready to sell them on the porch or in the basement, many times with the assistance of their daughter Violet. Christina was President of the Ladies Aid Society and sang in the Minstrel Shows in the Presbyterian Church with daughter, Violet. She was a great cook, made root beer and even made cakes for the Army boys stationed nearby. George and Christina had three children: Marion, who married Edward Skrent; Violet, who married Gordon Pike; and Elaine, who married Jeremiah Mangan and had three children– Robert, George and Patricia.

John was a jolly person. He liked baseball as his brothers did and was right-handed pitcher for the New Hyde Park Baseball Team. He liked wild duck hunting and fishing for food along with his brothers. John was devoted to his family and helped to take care of the family house and gardens when he was not working in the fields or bulb house.

Brother William was a little more serious than John and he also liked baseball. He went into the Army during World War I and was stationed at Camp Upton. Bill liked to go to Jamaica on Saturday nights to the movies and he would bring home goodies for his sisters. The cookies and candy were delicious. After he retired from the nursery he worked part time for George Christ for a short while.

Pauline (Lena) loved her family and helped her mother, Augusta, take care of all the household chores, eventually taking care of her brothers and sisters and running the house for them. She sang and played the piano with a light touch and liked to entertain on weekends. She was fun to be with and an excellent cook.

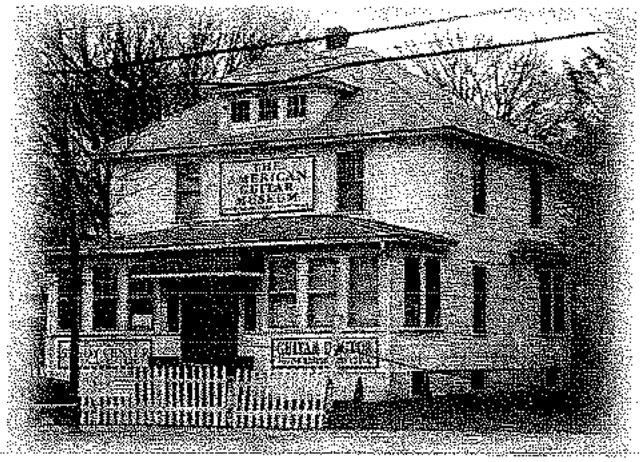
Augusta (Gussie or Dolly) also played piano and sang. She worked as a secretary for John Lewis Childs in Flowerfield. On returning to New Hyde Park she helped Pauline with the housework.

Elsie worked as Postmaster in Flowerfield and played the organ in St. James Church. She worked for Lilco, in Mineola, as a supervisor until she retired. Elsie also helped her sisters in her spare time and would take members of her family for a drive in the afternoon or evening. They would visit Uncle John Yerk in Plainview, Uncle Bill Marshall in Flowerfield, cousin Jack at Jack Yerk's Bathing Beach in Lake Ronkonkoma or other relatives or friends. She also said she could drive a horse and buggy and ride a bicycle.

Leonard Jr. had a love for mechanics. He rode a motorcycle, had a car with a rumble seat and would drive anywhere, anytime, in the early days. He had a great sense of humor and had many friends. Lenny married Mae Schellentraeger and they had three children: Marlene, who married Gregory Fengarinus; Joan, who married Charles Johnson; and Leonard, who married Stephanie Panzerelli. They lived at 600 Lowell Avenue in the house built by cousin Amelia's husband, Arthur Klahn. Many good times were had there. Marlene's children are: Gregory, Charles, and John. Joan's children are: Charles, Debarah, Richard and Kenneth. Leonard Jr. met his lovely wife through Christina Joerg's friends, Charles and Louise Schellentraeger. When they met, Mae was working in New York City for the Equitable Life Insurance Company.

George and Christina Joerg

1921 - George Joerg residence.
1910 New Hyde Park Road



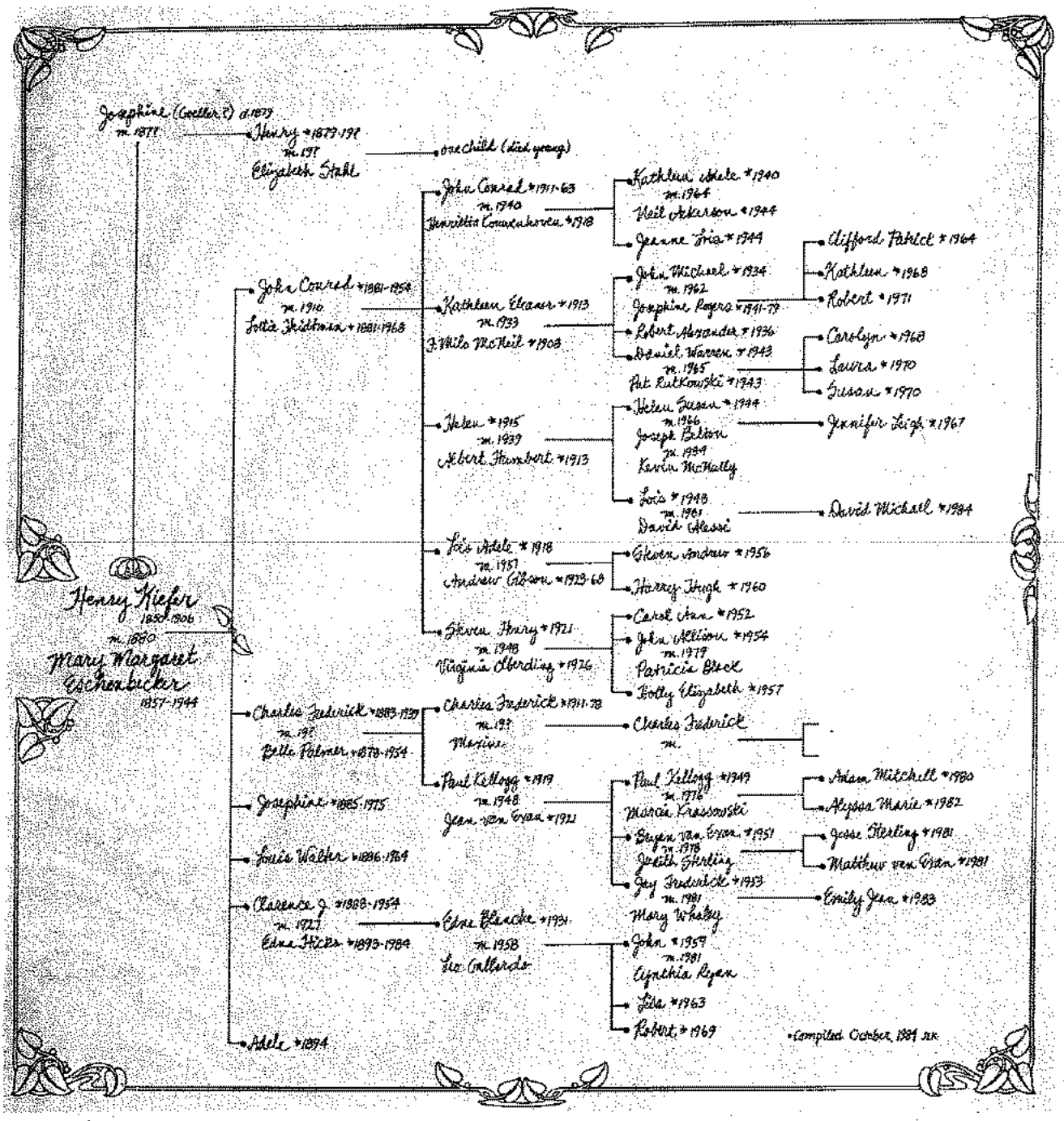
1996 - George Joerg residence, now guitar museum.
1910 New Hyde Park Road

B&W Mockawetch Florist
The Only Working Greenhouses
South 1st Street, 1996

NOTE: Toward the end of the last century New Hyde Park was known throughout the country for its greenhouses. Florists were not only growing, but also hybridizing gladiolas, roses, carnations, crysanthemums, begonias and dahlias. In addition to the Joerg families, there were the Baer brothers– Charles, George and Herman, the Oszapinski family was specializing in carnations, huge greenhouses were owned by the Domanoski, Postek, Mackawetch and Schackleitz families, and the Kerrigan family was growing perennials in open fields.

George E. Christ

The Kiefer-Eschenbecker Family



15 - The Kiefer-Eschenbecker Family

Early Family History

Information gathered by Jeanne Kiefer for the family celebration of Adele Kiefer's 90th birthday (November 13, 1984).

This story begins with a little three-year old girl, Maria Margaretha Eschenbecker, who left the town of Kragelstein, in Bavaria, Germany, about 1860. She and her family came to America on a sailing ship. The trip took about three months. (Jeanne Kiefer has a painted pine trunk with a handmade lock that came over with the family.)

Besides her father (Konrad) and mother (Margaret?), Maria had three sisters (Maggie, Laura and Fannie) and three brothers (Charlie, John and Fred). They all lived in a big, rambling white farmhouse on their farm, just south of the village of Jamaica, Queens. (Aunt Delle believes the major crop was potatoes.) There is a family photo of Konrad picking apples on the farm.

Family tradition has it that the Eschenbeckers left Germany to avoid the wars. They were very disconcerted when the American Civil War broke out just one year after they arrived!

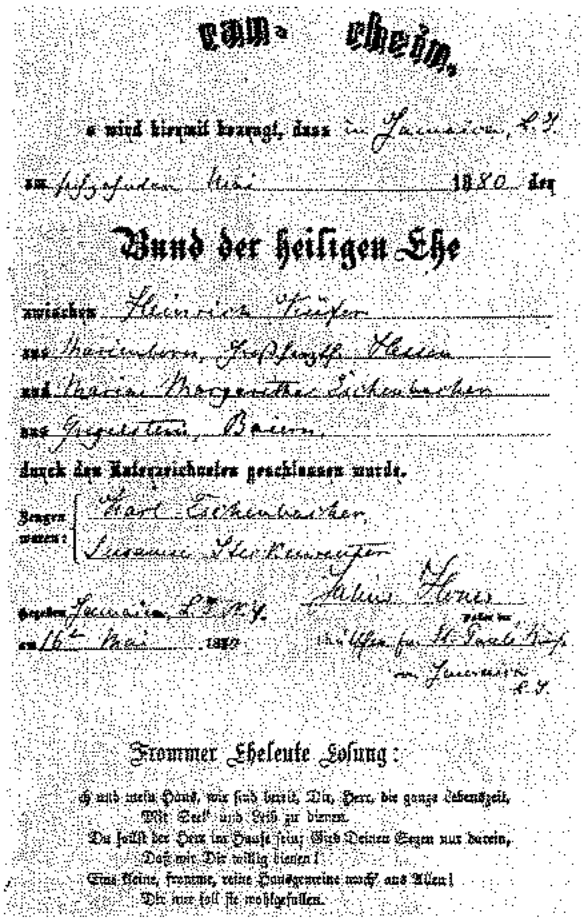
While Maria was growing up on Long Island, a young man, Heinrich Kiefer, was learning the harness trade in a little town in Hesse, Germany, called Marienborn. (This town, just south of Mainz, and was visited after WWII by Charles Kiefer and in 1966 by Jeanne Kiefer. Almost 100 years after Heinrich left, the descendents of his family knew all about the American branch and were very interested in news of us all!)

Although family tradition claims Heinrich snuck out of Germany to avoid military service, his papers include a commendation from the Kaiser for his "loyal service" during the 1870-71 Franco-Prussian War. He received a noncombatant medal for his service to the 2nd Mounted Regiment. The paper mentions no rank, so perhaps Heinrich was employed by the regiment as a civilian harness-maker. Photographs, however, do show him in a military uniform.

In any case, we believe that Heinrich came to America in 1873. He must have been about 23 years old. About the same time, three of his brothers also immigrated: John, Chris and Peter (who returned to Germany). Several sisters remained in Germany.

Heinrich settled in New Hyde Park, in what was then Queens County. So did Chris, who kept a tavern, and John, who had a farm on Hempstead Turnpike. Earlier, most of this area was a large farm owned by the Kelsey family. The town began when the Kelsey farm was broken up and sold to many owners in the 1870s. The Ingrahams had a large house in the neighborhood, as did an exiled Englishman named Cobbett. He named his estate "Hyde Park," and the area was so called by the locals.

Heinrich married a young women named Josephine (Goeller?), who died in childbirth in 1879. The son lived to become Heinrich, Jr. (Family tradition says Heinrich named his first daughter, Josephine, after this first wife. Aunt Venie was her father's favorite, recalls Aunt Delle.)



Trau-Schein.

Es wird hiermit bezeugt, dass in Jamaica, L.I.
am fünfzehnten Mai 1880 der

Bund der heiligen Ehe

zwischen Heinrich Kiefer
aus Mariendorn, Kurhessen
und Marie Margarethe Eschenbacher
aus Gingelstein, Baiern,

durch den Unterzeichneten geschlossen wurde.

Zeugen waren: Carl Eschenbacher
Lieutenant Fr. Kennacker

Gegeben Jamaica, L.I. N.Y. Julius Hoyer
am 16ten Mai 1880 Pastor der Gemeinde für Ev. Deutsche
in Jamaica L.I.

Frommer Eheleute Losung:

Ich und mein Haus, wir sind bereit, Dir, Herr, die ganze Lebenszeit,
Mit Kraft und Lust zu dienen.
Du sollst der Herr im Hause sein; Gieb Deinen Segen nun darein,
Daß wir Dir willig dienen!
Eine kleine, fromme, reine Hausgemeine macht aus Allen
Die nur soll sie wohlgefallen.

Heinrich, now 29 and with an infant son to raise, considered returning to Germany. Instead, he remarried within the year. The story goes that he spotted three of the Eschenbecker girls at the train station. His friend, Mr. Goeller, who owned a Jamaica hotel and knew many of the German immigrants, introduced him to the Eschenbecker family. The girls hid behind a curtain while the subject of marriage was broached, trying to get a

Left: 1880 - Heinrich Kiefer and Marie Eschenbecker marriage certificate.
Above: 1996 - Sport's World.
1200 Jericho Turnpike
Below: 1880 - Henry Kiefer's Harness Shop.
1200 Jericho Turnpike

peek at the suitor and wondering which girl was being discussed. The arranged marriage was with Maria, then 23, and took place in the German Reform St. Paul's Church in Jamaica, in May 1880.

The next year was a very busy one for the young couple. In February 1881, they paid $600 for a parcel of the old Kelsey farm on Jericho Turnpike. (They bought a second parcel for $110 in 1891.) On the mortgage, the Justice of the Peace affirms he questioned Maria "apart from her husband" to make sure she entered the agreement "of her own free will and accord without fear or compulsion from her husband." In July 1881, their first child John Conrad was born. In September, Heinrich, now officially Henry, became a U.S. citizen.

The young family first lived in a rented house a bit east of the house we know. It burned down sometime after John was born. A family story about the fire says Henry threw a trunk of dishes out the upstairs window but carried down the featherbeds. The present house at 1200 Jericho Turnpike was built soon after and contained Henry's harness shop as well as the living quarters. It was a two-family house, and the families of Henry's workers often lived in the other half of the house.

Henry's shop fronted on Jericho Turnpike, a wide dirt road that was one of the few major roads on Long Island at that time. (Mary paid an assessment of $575 in 1931 to have the road widened!) The Turnpike went from the town of Jericho to the farmers' markets in Long Island City, and many farmers' carts traveled the route every day. Henry Kiefer's shop catered to these farmers. (As did Chris Kiefer's tavern, across the street!) The farmers would stop on their way to and from the market for repairs or to order new equipment. The work done in the shop must have been top quality, because the superintendents of the Whitney and Vanderbilt stables patronized Henry Kiefer. Mary sewed horse blankets for the business on a factory sewing machine.

Henry and Mary's family grew quickly. Mary soon had four more children, each two years apart. In 1883, Charles Frederich (the family extrovert, according the Aunt Delle) was born. Then came Josephine, Louis Walter and Clarence. After a gap of six years, the last child, Adele, was born in 1894. Mary was 37, Henry 44.

1909 - Walter L. Kiefer

The town these children knew was a small, agricultural community. Farms bordered the Turnpike. In 1883, the Kiefers helped found the First Reformed Church in town. (Henry had been a Catholic in Germany. When the local priest urged him to have his children baptized Catholic one day, he replied, "They're in the back. Go back and do it." The priest refused, and the children grew up to regularly attend the Protestant church with their parents. Aunt Delle recalls earning a nickel for polishing her father's Sunday shoes.) Gradually, the town expanded and grew. Since there was only an elementary school in New Hyde Park, the children went to Jamaica High School, living on the Eschenbecker farm while they attended. Aunt Delle remembers visiting the farm with her mother, driving from New Hyde Park in the

buggy behind Daisy, their horse. (The farm was sold when Grandma Eschenbecker died.) She also recalls wonderful trips into New York City on snowy winter evenings - in a sleigh! In those days, snow wasn't plowed aside. Instead, it was heaped up onto the road to facilitate sleigh travel.

Aunt Delle recalls her "Papa" was a quiet, reserved man. She believes he spoke German except when business demanded English. He taught his trade to all his sons. Henry, Jr. and John were in their mid-20's when their father had a serious illness during the bitter winter of 1905. He recovered, but his doctor warned him that he was weakened and might not survive another hard winter. He died a year later, probably of pneumonia. He was 57.

Henry Jr. and John took over the harness shop. Henry brought in a new sideline–bicycles. But he and John fell out, and Henry went off to Mineola to start his own harness shop. The building he built still stands on Jericho Turnpike. Charles also married and moved away. He eventually raised his family in Ilion, New York, where he worked for the Remington Arms Company. (His brother John and family drove up to see him once and the trip took two days.) In 1910, John married and moved his family into the family home. He rented half the house from his mother, while she and her unmarried children (Josephine, Louis Walter, Clarence and Adele) lived in the other half. John's children remember a great deal of interaction between the two family groups.

Josephine visited her Kiefer relatives in Germany in 1913. (Her Uncle Johnny had visited there earlier and inspired the visit.) She was nearly caught in WWI. Her two brothers, Louis Walter and Clarence, both served in France during WWI, meeting unexpectedly over there. (The family tradition linking Uncle Walter's condition to mustard gas during the war seems to be a misconception. Aunt Venie claimed he was "just never the same" after a severe childhood illness – scarlet fever?)

Josephine Kiefer

Adele Kiefer

After the War, things changed at 1200. Clarence married and moved to Mineola. He worked in the County Assessor's office there. Josephine, inspired by the war effort, decided to train as a nurse at Wickoff Hospital in Brooklyn. She later worked some years at that hospital. Later, she cared for private patients on Long Island. (Including Sam Fox, the movie mogul, who "ate fat," she told a surprised Aunt Delle.) Adele attended secretarial school and became a stenographer, eventually working for the old law firm of Lord, Day and Lord in Manhattan.

On a rail trip west with her Eschenbecker cousins, Adele decided to stay and work in California. "I won't go back until I've seen Hawaii and Alaska," she told her family. She lived in Los Angeles from 1923-26. She missed Alaska, but did sail to Hawaii for a visit in 1924.

Family tradition has it that Mary decided to build the Garden City house in order to lure Adele back to Long Island. Adele did return and started working at Sinclair Oil in 1926. (She retired in 1959, after 33 years with the company.) In 1927, Mary, Josephine, Louis Walter and Adele move into their Greenridge Avenue home.

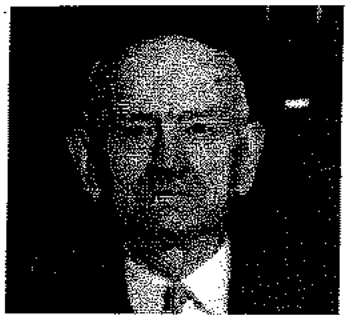
Mrs. Marie Kiefer Marks 80th Year

NEW HYDE PARK—Mrs. Marie Kiefer of Nassau Haven was host yesterday at open house in honor of her 80th birthday. Supper and dinner were served.

Guests were Mr. and Mrs. John Simon of Queens Village, Mrs. Harry Hilmer, Mrs. Kate Heidtman, Mrs. Clara Kelly, Mr. and Mrs. John Kiefer and Mr. and Mrs. Milo McNeill of New Hyde Park, Mr. and Mrs. John Dengler of Wantagh, Mr. and Mrs. John Sebold, Mrs. John Sebold Sr., Elizabeth Miller of Jamaica, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Kiefer of Mineola, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kiefer of Lynbrook, the Rev. William McNeill of Garden City, the Rev. and Mrs. David Weidner of New Hyde Park, Mrs. Anna Bescher of Richmond Hill, and Mrs. Charlotte Reiss of Woodhaven.

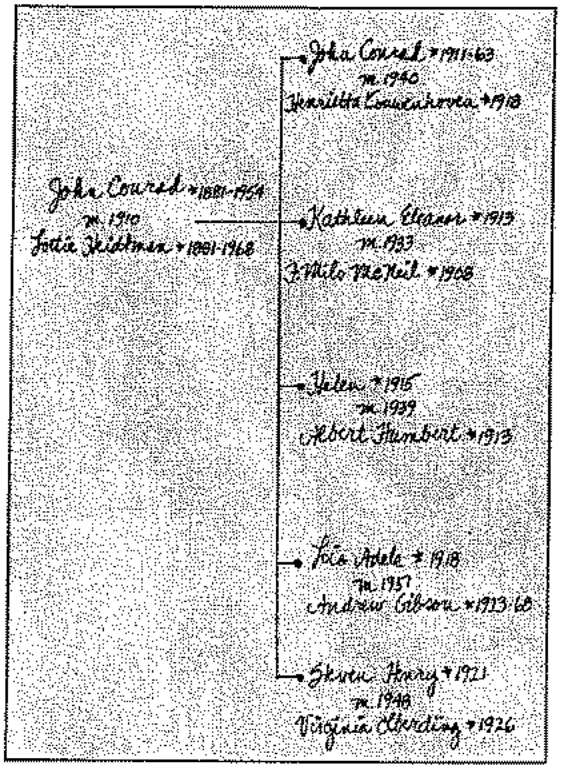
Mrs. Louise Rick and daughter of Brooklyn, Mrs. Amelia Klatz, Mrs. Gertrude Kelly, Mrs. George Baer, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Leroux, Blanche Norris, Sadie Hughes, John Kiefer Jr., Louis and Stephen Kiefer of New Hyde Park, and Mrs. Louise Wachter of Floral Park.

Mary Kiefer died there in 1944, at the age of 87. She and Henry are buried in the family plot in Greenfield Cemetery, Hempstead.



John Kiefer

Lottie Heidtman Kiefer



John Kiefer

Kathleen Kiefer McNeil and Milo McNeil

Helen Kiefer Humbert

Lois Kiefer Gibson

John G. Kiefer
By
Marcus G. Christ

Past President of the Bank of New Hyde Park

July 2, 1954

1909 - John G. Kiefer

John Kiefer will not be seen in his shop any more. He died this morning. For some weeks now the store has been closed and a "For Sale" sign in the window heralded the coming change. Unhappily for us all he is irreplaceable. For more than half a century he stood in the windows there at his work, deep in the hearts of every boy and girl who grew up in this village. He was standing there making harness with his father and his brothers when I was born just around the corner. He fixed my pony bridle and my book strap when I was a boy and he sold me bicycles for my growing family in later years.

At first, he looked out upon the country market road where only horses and wagons moved. Some by two horse trucks carrying the produce of our Island to the great markets in New York and some were light rigs in local trade society. Most of them were using harness made in his father's shop. The fields across the street were open, ploughed and green to feed the great city.

Each day working his knives and punching his needle and his awl he grew to manhood in this country village. And he saw the changes come. They came literally before his eyes, for by the nature of his working place he was always at the window of the world looking as it moved by. He saw the green fields go. He saw the trolley come before his door and perish almost in its first breath. The novel contraption, the automobile, grew from a toy to be the whole thing. The cars swished by and the massive motor trucks rumbled the very foundations of his house. The trolleys, the market wagons, the light rigs and the harness business all went off the street to the museums. John Kiefer adapted himself to the change and he built a new business still at the old stand, bicycles, sporting goods, odds and ends.

What kind of a man was this John Kiefer? He was a little hard to define. He was a philosopher but he was not complicated. He was an avaricious reader and he had a prodigious memory. Little that he ever knew did he forget.

He was interested in events everywhere and for me he was like a magnet. I could seldom pass his shop without a word or two, for he was a man of wisdom. It was the wisdom of the Bible, of the folk song of Chaucer and John Bunyan. Its principle ingredient was an elemental, piercing Lincolnian common sense, a fascination to every person with whom he spoke.

I sat with him each week as a director of the Bank of New Hyde Park for twenty-five years and he was invaluable as a companion and a sagacious official. He was a member of our Board of Education and strong timber in his Church. John Kiefer was an honest man, of great character and he spoke out on public questions.

He said to me once, "Marcus, you know the Village has no characters anymore, they have all gone on." He named some and he was referring to men of distinctive individuality and strength who held your interest in an indefinable way, men who took you to their heart and held you close, who in trouble were rocks to rest upon, men who nourished the mind and helped recharge the well springs of energy. John Kiefer was such a man, and his statement to me on the passing of characters is truer now than when he said it.

Did I say John Kiefer will not be seen in his shop anymore? Well, that is true for those who never knew him, but for all of us of whom he became a part, who talked with him and loved him, we shall see him always standing there as we pass his place.

Recollections of Life at the Jericho Turnpike house

by Helen Kiefer Humbert, October 1984

The turnpike house was just two family. Grandma, Aunt Venie, Aunt Delle, Uncle Walter, and Uncle Clarence were on one side, and Papa (John C. Kiefer Sr.), Mama and us five kids were on the other. The shop was in between.

On the property was a summer kitchen and outhouse. We had a cherry tree, black walnut tree, grape arbor, blackberry bushes, peach orchard and the chicken yard. Grandma grew many vegetables in the garden.

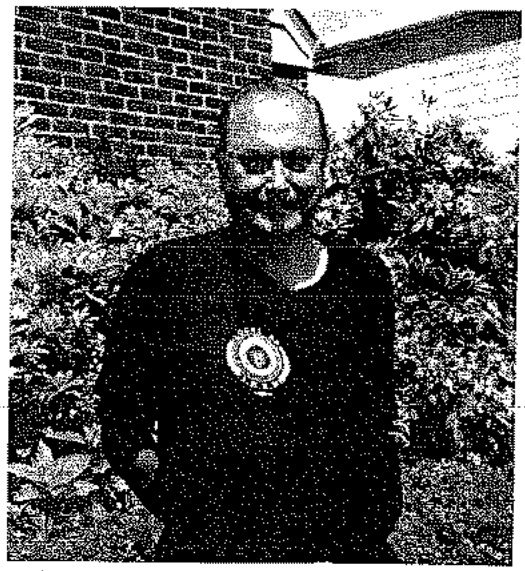
On Easter, we made little nests out of excelsior all around the yard on Saturday. Very early Easter morning, Papa hid the eggs. We never saw any laying of the eggs, so, when we had our baskets and went gathering, it was very exciting. Some eggs always got broken.

Our Christmas was like this: we never saw the tree until Christmas morning. We all got dressed, even shoes, and lined up at the top of the stairs - youngest first. We were very excited and tried hard to be patient. We went down the stairs, along the long hall and into the living room. We stood there oohing and awing. We always got a book, some clothes (like a suede jacket), some toys, games and maybe jewelry.

Christmas dinner was always on Grandma's side. She made homemade noodles in her chicken soup, and kids ate nothing else. There was always a goose and a turkey too. She always seemed to have a housefull.

In the evening, everybody stood around the tree while Papa, with pails of water standing by, lighted the candles on the tree.

We had a happy, sheltered childhood.



Robert McNeil, son of Kathleen Kiefer McNeil

OUR FORMER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Prominent Citizens Were Active Members

The proposal of a public library for New Hyde Park brings to memory some of the efforts of civic workers of many years ago to establish such an institution.

At various times the Woman's Civic Club, the Men's Club and the Board of Trade were behind such a movement, and finally a public library association was formed.

Many books were donated, others were bought. The first distribution was made from Eichert's Pharmacy, and continued for several years.

Finally the store in the Kiefer building was rented, and for a long time Miss Helen Kiefer was the librarian, assisted by other willing workers.

There was a large list of yearly subscribing members, but the rents and other expenses soon ate up the fund of over $500 the association had accumulated, and with but few readers and the apathy of the public the association finally closed up shop and the books were stored away.

Those who were prominent in the Association at various times were Judge Marcus G. Christ, who was the president, Miss Eva Simon, of blessed memory, Mrs. William Bowie, William Paradis, Rev. David C. Weidner, Mrs. Philip J. Christ, William Bowie, Mrs. George Christ, Postmaster Flinn, and many others.

Although activities ceased, it is said that the original association is still in existence, and in order to obtain the stored books for the new movement it will be necessary for the old board of meet and act ...ction.

Kragelstein, Germany

Comments from Josephine Kiefer on her mother's (Mary Margaret Eschenbecker) birthplace, sent during the visit of 1913 to Germany.

Kragelstein is wonderful beyond words. Sands Point has stones but nothing like those I saw today. I wish I had a week to wander about here, the sky is so blue after the rain we had, the grass so green and the trees. Words fail me. I am near heaven while here but far away at other times!

Christopher Kiefer

Chris was one of four brothers who came to America around 1870. Chris and Heinrich settled in New Hyde Park. John started a farm in Hempstead and Peter returned to Germany. Like many of the Germans in our area, Heinrich and Chris went into business for themselves. Heinrich opened up a harness shop and Chris bought a large plot of land on Jericho Turnpike, southwest from South 12th Street. He built a large building on the corner to house a tavern with a bowling alley. It was just a one lane alley, but was the very first one in New Hyde Park. There was so much traffic on Jericho Turnpike with all the farmers going to market, that all of the local inns could make a living, especially when they had stables for the horses. Chris built a large stable next to the house and his wife took care of the kitchen. Business went well, till the prohibition. The tavern and bowling alley were discontinued and the ground floor was subdivided and rented out to "Plesser's Hardware" on the corner. Next to it he rented to "Thos. Roulston's" grocery store. Son, Willie Kiefer converted the stables and started a radio shop with Ed Hausch. He rented the space next to it to Ralph Kun for use as a barber shop. The barber was successful, but Willies business was failing, so after the prohibition, he closed the radio store and started a tavern in his father's old place.

Roulston's was already closed, Plessers moved up the turnpike and Willie modernized the whole building. He expanded it several feet, added a brick front, modern plumbing and a six lane bowling alley.

The building stood into the late 1950s when it was bought by the Roosevelt Savings Bank, then demolished and a modern bank building was erected.

Like most families in New Hyde Park, the Kiefers married other locals. Willie's sister Viola was the wife of Alfred Flynn who was fire chief in New Hyde Park and the son of Postmaster Jack Flynn.

January 29, 1939

MRS. KIEFER DIES IN FALL

NEW HYDE PARK—An autopsy was performed at Meadowbrook Hospital today by Medical Examiner Theodore Curphy to determine the cause of death of Mrs. Sophie Kiefer, 56, a widow, who died instantly when she fell on the ice in front of her home at 11 North 11th street Saturday night.

Mrs. Kiefer was on her way to a neighbor's home when it is believed she either became suddenly ill or slipped on the ice. She was found by passersby, who notified police.

Mrs. Kiefer is the mother of Viola Kiefer, with whom she lived, and William F. Kiefer, proprietor of a bowling alley on Jericho turnpike. She was a resident of this village 40 years.

Services will be held at her home Thursday at 2 P. M. and burial will take place in Greenfield Cemetery.

David Plesser, 79, Innovative LI Appliance Dealer

By Gary Witherspoon
STAFF WRITER

Before discount appliance dealers offered "insane" prices and "unbeatable" deals, Floral Park native David Plesser was carving his unusual sales niche on Long Island.

Mr. Plesser died from an embolism Dec. 28 after collapsing in his Palm Beach, Fla., home. Services were held recently in Great Neck. He was 79.

He helped develop the concepts of instant credit and one-hour delivery, according to his brother, Morton, of Woodmere. Mr. Plesser turned his appliance business over to his brother about 16 years ago and then worked 10 years as national sales manager of Pentax cameras, a division of Honeywell Corp. He retired in 1988.

He was the eldest of five children of the late Samuel and Frieda Plesser and was reared in New Hyde Park. He graduated from Hempstead High School and then the University of North Carolina with a degree in business administration.

After college, he returned to Long Island and worked in his father's New Hyde Park hardware store. Mr. Plesser then enlisted in the Army and became a lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers, serving in World War II.

After the war, Mr. Plesser opened his first discount appliance store in New Hyde Park. He married the former Ann Nierenberg of Great Neck.

When Newsday began publication more than 50 years ago, Mr. Plesser was one of the first to take a chance and advertise in the fledgling newspaper. The newspaper's growth paralleled his own and, eventually, he was operating seven stores. Today, the business is centralized in Babylon.

David Targo, retired executive vice president of marketing for Newsday, recalled that Mr. Plesser "was one of the first appliance dealers to use Newsday to reach out to the market. Plesser's was one of the leading stores which showed how to get full usage out of Newsday. The store had a reputation for credibility and integrity."

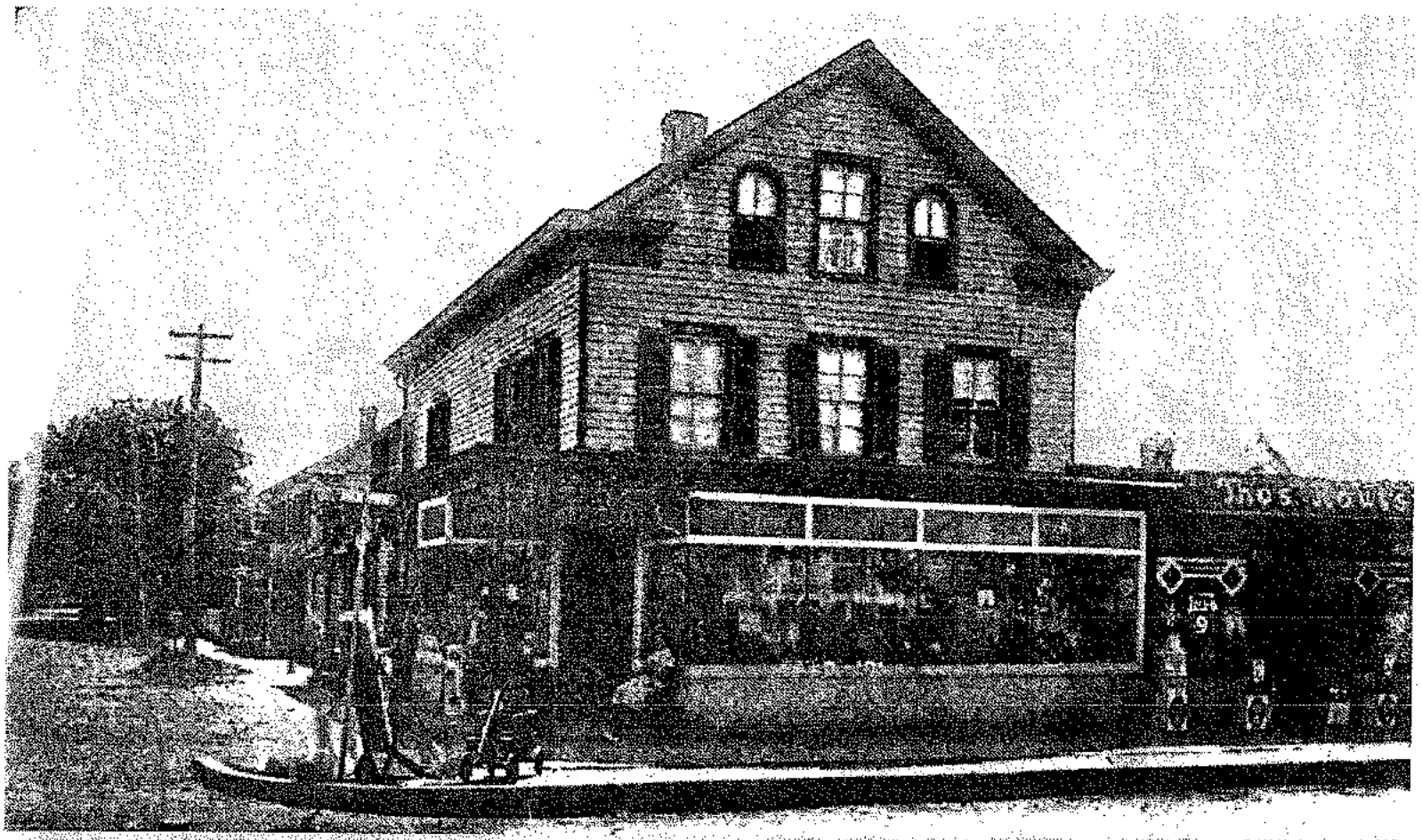
Mr. Plesser foresaw the population boom in Suffolk County and expanded his business into the area, Targo said. He also was one of the first advertisers to use his own picture in ads.

He was a member of the Masonic temple in Woodhaven and past president of the Jewish Center of the Hamptons, his brother said.

He was relaxing at home after a round of golf when he was stricken, according to his brother.

In addition to his wife and brother, survivors include two daughters, Susan Brenner of Baltimore and Nancy Wendell of East Hampton, and two sisters, Natalie Schulz of Great Neck and Blanche Berkman of Myrtle Beach, S.C.

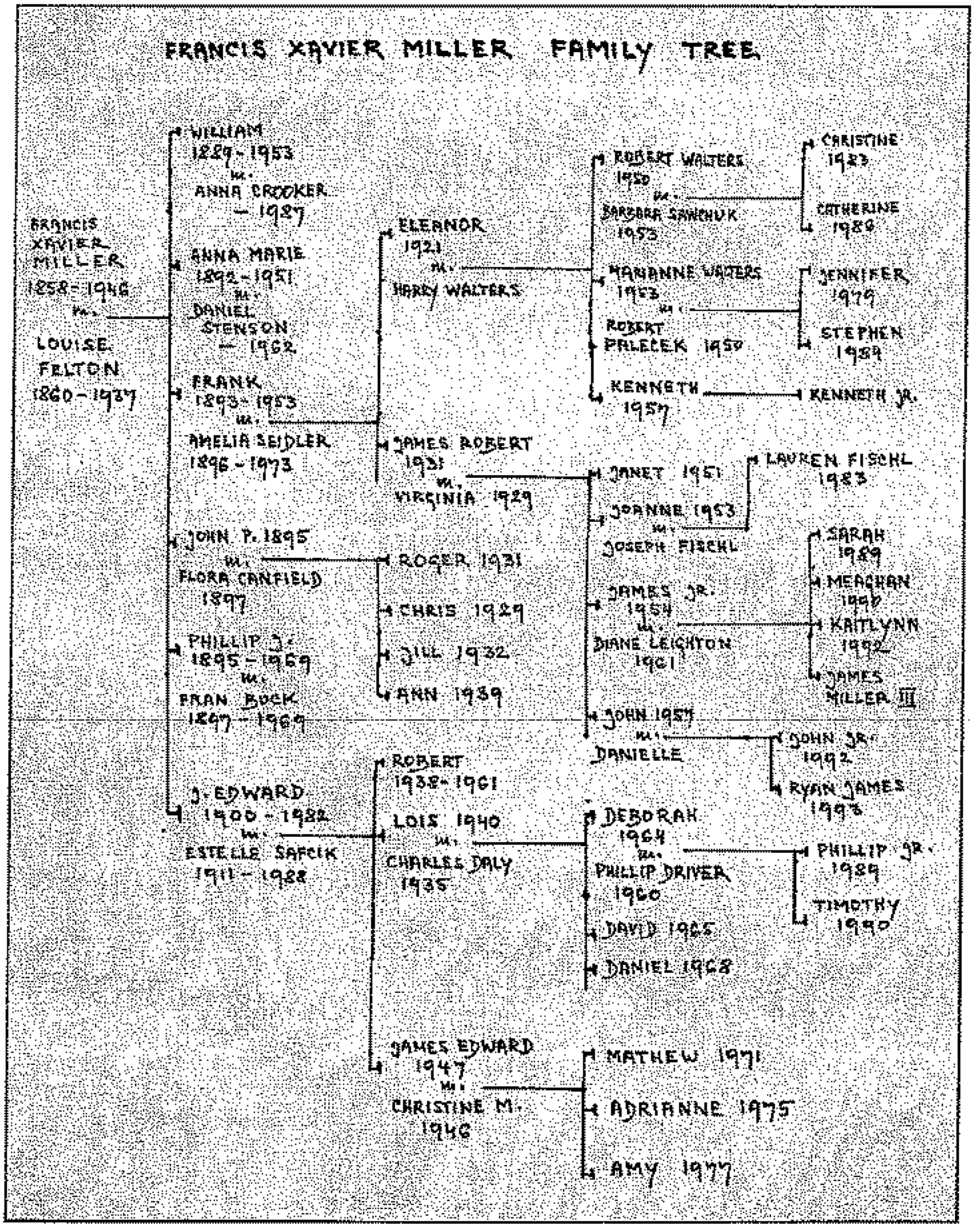
Funeral services were held Dec. 30 at Riverside-Nassau North Chapels in Great Neck; burial was in Beth David Cemetery in Elmont.



1927 - Sam Plesser's Hardware Store, next to it Roulston's Grocery.
1114 Jericho Turnpike

Roosevelt Savings Bank,
1114 Jericho Turnpike

FRANCIS XAVIER MILLER FAMILY TREE



16 - The Miller Clan

Early Family History

by Eleanor (Miller) Walters

In 1858, my grandfather, Frank Miller, was born in Frankfurt, Germany, the youngest brother of Philip J. Miller. He immigrated to America at the tender age of 13 and lived with his brother Philip in New Hyde Park. A carpenter by trade, he worked many hours as a helper to the master carpenter of the surrounding areas. In 1885, he worked on the building which was known as "Philip J. Miller Hall & General Store," which is today "Henry's Inn" at the corner of Jericho Turnpike and Millers Lane.

In 1887, he met, fell in love with, and married my grandmother, Louise Felton, in St. Boniface Church, Elmont. They lived in a big, rambling white house an the corner of Jericho Turnpike and Herkomer Street. The house had three stories, 8 rooms, plus an attic. It also had a beautiful open porch which wrapped itself around from the front clear around the entire one side of the house. It was great to play on that porch when we were kids! There was also a beautiful great big lush lawn and flowers too! That lawn was another wonderful place to play. Now that he was married grandfather's responsibilities increased, so he found employment in Floral Park, where John Lewis Childs was developing the community and needed carpenters to build a hotel and living quarters for the many employees of his large seed company. Also, at this, Mr. J. Stewart was developing a large track of land which he called Garden City, just east of New Hyde Park, which provided more work for grandfather. The family gradually increased by six children - William, Phillip, John - also called Dick, Frank (my Dad), Anna, and Edward. Grandpa also had many chores at home, chickens to feed, a vegetable garden to tend, etc. His means of transportation was a horse.

Now for the children as they grew into adulthood. William owned and operated an automotive station in Manhasset; Phillip had a Buick dealership with a showroom on Jericho Turnpike and Tulip Avenue, Floral Park; John enlisted in the U. S. Navy during WWI; Frank was employed by L. I. Lighting Co., as a meter reader before he enlisted in the U. S. Army, American Expeditionary Forces, Third Infantry

Frank Miller

Mrs. Louise Miller

NEW HYDE PARK—Services will be held Saturday with a requiem mass at 10 a. m. at the R. C. Church of the Holy Ghost, Jericho turnpike, here, for Mrs. Louise Felten Miller, 75, who died Tuesday at her home, 13-24 Jericho turnpike.

Death was due to influenza contracted as final plans were being made on Jan. 18 for a dinner to celebrate the golden wedding anniversary of Mrs. Miller and her husband, Frank.

The couple were marrried 50 years ago at St. Boniface R. C. Church, Elmont.

She was a member of the Holy Rosary Society.

Mrs. Miller is survived by her husband, Frank; five sons, William of Manhasset; John, of Stewart Manor; Frank Jr., of Floral Park; Philip and Edward Miller, of New Hyde Park, and a daughter, Mrs. Daniel Stenson, of New Hyde Park.

The Rev. Joseph Reichert, assistant pastor of the church, will celebrate the mass. Interment will be in St. Boniface Cemetery, Elmont.

Arrangements are under the direction of Thomas F. Dalton of Floral Park.

BRIDESMAIDS OF 1887 TO FETE COUPLE ON GOLDEN WEDDING

Millers Will Be Honored at New Hyde Park Dinner Tonight

NEW HYDE PARK.—Two bridesmaids, who in 1887 attended the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Miller, will tonight attend the couple's golden wedding anniversary at 1324 Jericho turnpike, here.

The bridesmaids who assisted at the wedding 50 years ago in the St. Boniface R. C. Church, Elmont, are Mrs. Anna Fensterer, wife of Dr. G. E. Fensterer of Garden City, and Anna Harrison of Floral Park.

Mrs. Miller, now 75, is the former Louise Felten, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Felten, formerly of Elmont road and Southern State parkway, Elmont. Mr. Miller, who is 78, was born in Frankfort, Germany, and is the youngest brother of Philip Miller, 94, a founder of this village. Frank Miller came to America alone at 13 and joined his brother, Philip, in New Hyde Park.

Present will be Mr. and Mrs. William Miller of Manhasset, Mr. and Mrs. John Miller of Stewart Manor, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Miller Jr. of Floral Park, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Miller, Edward Miller, vice-president of the New Hyde Park Bank, and Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Stenson of New Hyde Park.

Also Mr. and Mrs. John Seidler, Mrs. Mary Barb and Mrs. Margaret Felton of Valley Stream, Philip Miller of New Hyde Park, Eleanor, James and Joel Miller of Floral Park and Bernard Fensterer of Garden City.

The Millers have received a congratulatory letter from President Roosevelt.

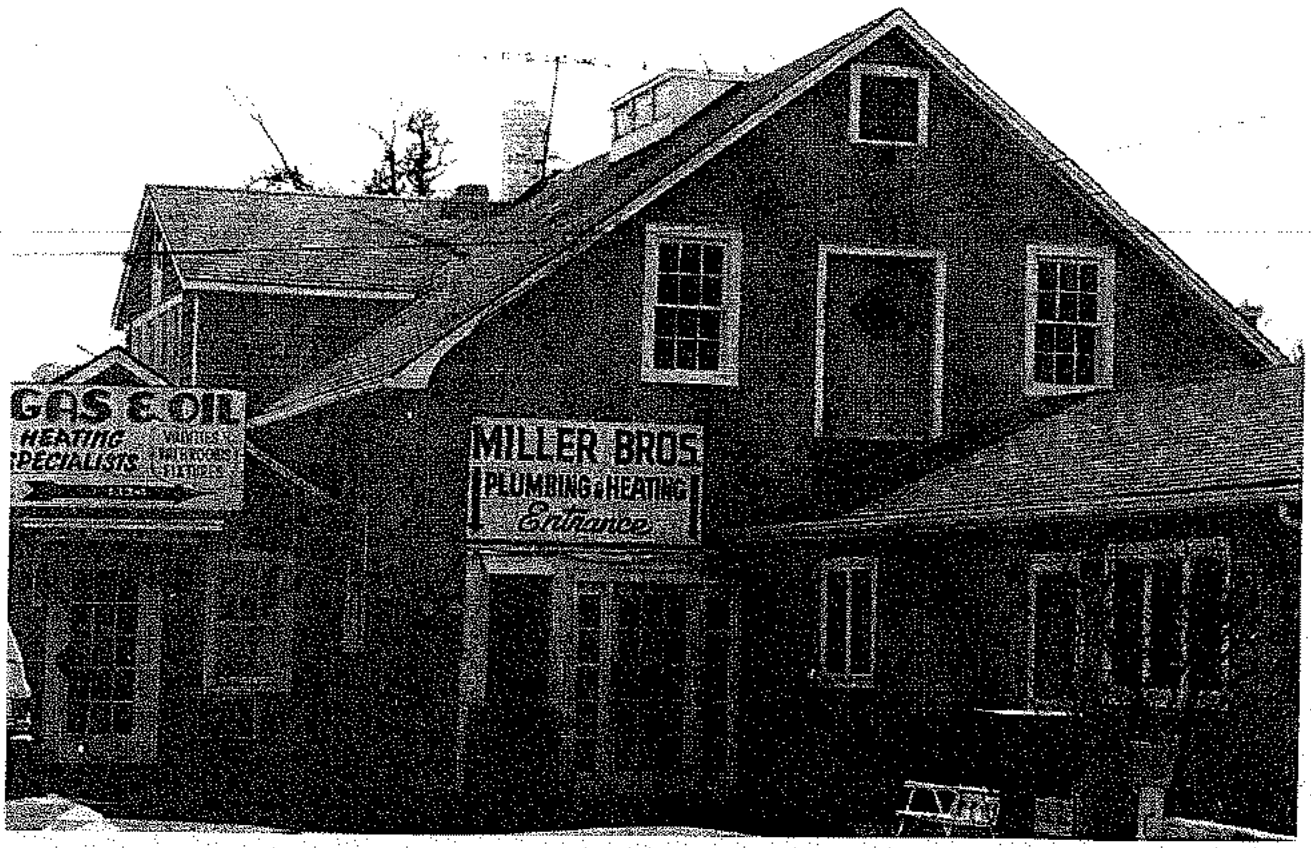
Top Left: January 1937 obituary of Mrs. Louise Miller.
Top Right: January 18, 1937 Article.
Bottom: January 18, 1937 - Golden wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Miller.
The bride Louise is missing in the picture. She died shortly before the party.

Division, Corps. of Sixth Engineers and served overseas in combat for better then two years. When he returned home from overseas he worked as a plumber for Campbell Plumbing & Heating in Floral Park, He and my mother were married June 25, 1920. They lived in an apartment here in New Hyde Park for a short time and then lived in a house built on Park Place, Floral Park, by Martin Evensen. I arrived into the world a year later and then my brother Jim 10 years after me! Dad and Uncle Dick started "Miller Brothers Plumbing & Heating" business in 1924. They began with one building on the grounds of the family homestead on Jericho Turnpike & Herkomer Street. Over the years the number of buildings gradually increased until they reached the five which stand today, still operating as "Miller Brothers Plumbing & Heating, Inc." After Dad's death in 1953, leadership of the business was taken over by my brother Jim and his two sons, Jim Jr. and John, who are the third generation of Millers.

Uncle Dick married Flora Canfield, a teacher at the New Hyde Park Road School. In 1938 they moved from New Hyde Park to Aunt Flora's home town of New Paltz, New York. There they raised their three children - Roger, Jill and Ann. From then on it was just Dad who owned and the business, which this year, 1994, celebrates its 70th year.

Aunt Anna married Daniel Stenson, who was employed by The Standard oil Co., of New York.

Uncle Edward worked in the Bank of New Hyde Park (now National Westminster Bank) and he married Estelle Safcik. They remained in New Hyde Park and had three children - Robert, Lois and James. Their eldest son, Robert, a U. S. Navy pilot in the 1960s, was killed while on a anti-sub



Miller Brothers Plumbing & Heating.
1324 Jericho Turnpike

patrol flight off the coast of Virginia. His remains, as well as those of his crew, were never recovered. Lois married Charles (Chuck) Daly; they have two sons, David and Danny and a daughter Debbie. Lois and Chuck reside in New Hyde Park, as well as both boys - part time. Debbie married Phillip Driver from Toronto, Canada where they now live with their two children.

James married Christine from Falls Church, Virginia, where they live with their three children, Matthew, Amy and Adrian. Jim Sr., married Virginia Varacchi, October 15, 1950. They bought their home in New Hyde Park, 44 years ago, where they still live today. They had five children - Janet, Joanne, Jim Jr., John, Jeanne.

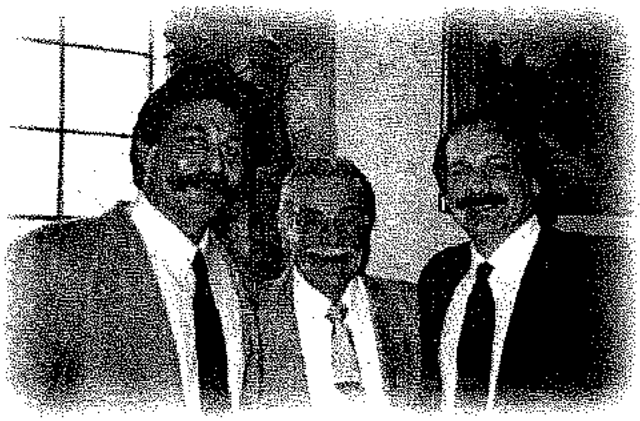
Jim Miller, Jr. married Diane Leighton. They have three daughters Sarah, Meaghan and Kaitlynn and reside in Garden City South.

John married Danielle Thayer; they have two sons, John Jr. and Ryan James. They reside in New Hyde Park. As of now, Janet and Jeanne have not married.

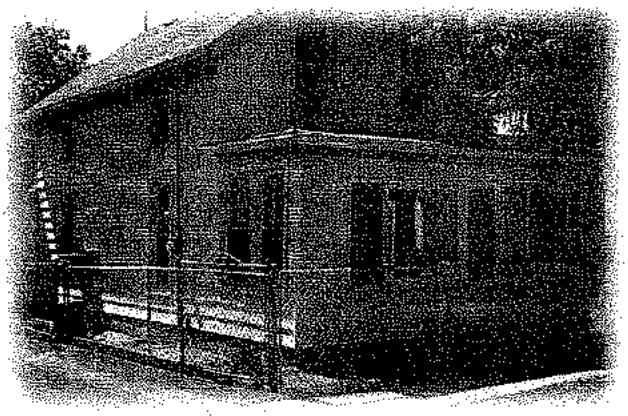
Joanne Miller, married Joe Fischl. They have one daughter Lauren and live in New Hyde Park.

As for me, during WWII, I married Harry Walters of Baltimore, MD, who was a Sergeant in the U. S. Air Force, stationed at Mitchell Field. We were married May 6, 1945 at Our Lady of Victory Church in Floral Park. He liked New Hyde Park so well that we stayed right here! We bought our present home brand new forty-three years ago. We have three children - Robert, Maryanne and Kenneth, none of whom stayed in New Hyde Park after they married. They have given us five beautiful grandchildren to love.

Eleanor Miller Walters
Park Avenue



James Jr., Jim, and John Miller



Buck Family home built by Francis Miller.
South 10th Street

was at that time inducted as Judge of the Supreme Court of the State of New York.

Philip J. Christ was the first president of the bank and served until his death in 1933. From 1933 to 1936 the bank's president was William A. Kielman. In 1936, Marcus G. Christ, son of the bank's founder, took over the duties of president.

In 1953 other staff members serving with the new president were Ernest Bencivenga, Vice-President and Cashier; Martin G. Rhodes, Vice-President; Fred J. Brugger, Jean L. Kohler, and Shirley Peideman, Assistant-Cashiers.

John C. Kiefer, William A. Kielman, Edward Miller, Martin G. Rhodes, and Charles H. Weckerle remained as directors of the bank and four new directors were appointed. The new directors were Joseph F. Bellamente, Philip J. Christ, Julius Ross, and Harold E. Weidner.

When the bank merged with Meadow Brook National Bank in 1955, Ed emerged as a Vice-President and manager, and continued in charge of the New Hyde Park Branch, in the same familiar building.

On October 23, 1965, Ed was given a testimonial dinner commemorating his 50 years in banking. The guest speaker was Hon. Marcus G. Christ, Justice of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, and Ed's dear friend since boyhood.

At year's end 1965, Ed took mandatory retirement from the banking institution, Meadow Brook National. However, retirement did not limit Ed's continuing contributions to life here in New Hyde Park. Still going strong, he continued on to become a 20-year member, as a trustee, of the Library Board of the Village of New Hyde Park (retired 1980), and enhanced his duties as coordinator of the local chapter of the Salvation Army. In his earlier years, Ed was a volunteer fire fighter with the New Hyde Park Fire Department, an active member of the American Red Cross, and during World War II served as an air-raid warden in New Hyde Park. Ed was a charter member of the New Hyde Park Lions Club.

Edward Miller residence.
145 Ingraham Lane

Ed Miller residence.
123 Ingraham Lane

The Ed Miller family resided at 145 Ingraham Lane during the early 1940s, then moved to 123 Ingraham Lane where Ed resided until his death on April 17, 1982. Estelle Miller continued to maintain residence on Ingraham Lane until 1985, thereafter in Falls Church, Virginia and New Hyde Park. Estelle passed away on September 26, 1988. Lt. (j.g.) Robert J. Miller was, killed during Naval maneuvers off the coast of Virginia, when his plane crashed at sea, November 8, 1961. Daughter, Lois, is a lifelong resident of New Hyde Park. Son, Jim, is now located in Falls Church, Virginia.

Lois Miller Daly
Brooklyn Avenue

1900 - Charles and Ann Simon.
New Hyde Park Road and 5th Avenue

The George Simon Family History

by Elda Simon

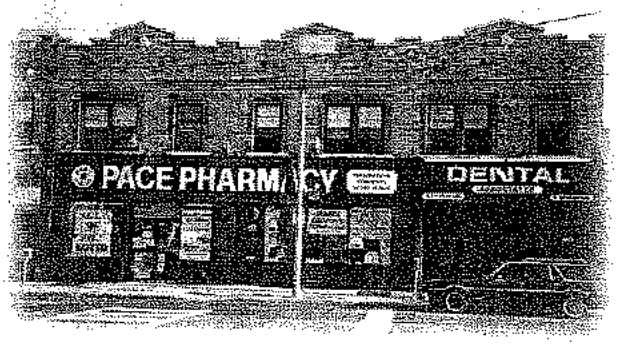
Margaret Schneider and George Simon were married in 1900 and lived in various houses in New Hyde Park, which they rented. George, John and Charles Simon farmed for many years on a large tract of land stretching between the two railroad tracks an north and south, and on the east as far as Tanners Pond Road and on the west a little beyond what is now Covert Avenue. They employed many local people as workers on the farm. The land was very productive and they lived very nicely for many years. Farming was not mechanized at that time and much work was done by hand. They had a good size stable of horses to pull the heavy equipment. Even the produce was brought into the market in New York City by horse and wagon. They had their own cows, pigs, chickens, grew all their own fruit and vegetables and were truly self sufficient family. They had their own well. In winter they would cut ice on the local ponds and bring it home, where it was stored in an ice house to be used in the sum-

1898 - George Simon with helper loading wagon to go to market.

house with rooms for rent, a kitchen and dining room and naturally a bar on the SW corner of South 9th Street and Jericho Turnpike. His wife Anne was an excellent cook, specializing in German dishes and it was not too long that he attracted different German societies which met in his place. There was a great deal of singing going on and the place got to be known as: "Gemuetlich". The Germans always like their clubs and there was a Gesangversein and a Turnverein, a football club and a Wandervogel. Things were going well. Very well indeed! Especially when the Vanderbilt Car races were held. People from all over came to see the race and all the Hotels in New Hyde Park were filled to capacity. Some people even lodged in private homes, where residents were willing "to let" a room. Having so many visitors at one time, not only the hotels but also the other businesses in the Village benefitted.

William and Anne prospered till in 1919 Congress passed the 18th amendment which was death of all the inns. William was almost 60 when he started a new venture. Instead of an inn, he now operated an ice cream parlor. But there was no more "GEMUETLICH" and the store did poorly. He sold his whole property to Sam Gelman who built a stationery store along side the Altman Dry Goods Store and to this day it is a stationery store.

During the depression Sam Gelman lost the property (It reverted back to the Hausches) but he was able to hold onto his other property on the SE corner of South 9th Street and Jericho Turnpike. This was the Gelman Liquor store which still stands.



1996 - Julius Altman dry goods store.
810 Jericho Turnpike

1800s - William A. Hausch Hotel, Ice Cream Parlor.
810 Jericho Turnpike

Like everyone else in the community, William Hausch was active. He was an organizer of the building committee to erect the First Presbyterian Church and his wife was president of the Ladies Aid Society.

Note: "GLEMUETLICH" means a pleasant relaxed atmosphere.

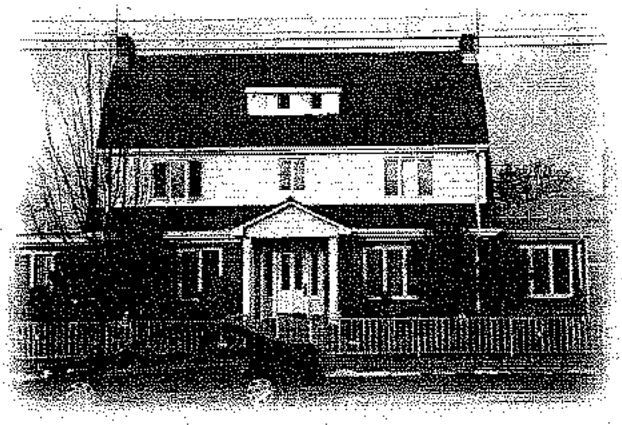
William J. (1893-1979) and Mae (1899-1975) Hausch

William Hausch Jr. was born in New Hyde Park and remained in the Village throughout life. Like his father, he was active in his church and when David Holman organized the Republican Club in New Hyde Park he became the first President. In Nassau County he held a position in the assessors office and also worked in the sheriffs office.

Henry (1902-1993) and Lois (1906-1971) Hausch

Henry Hausch had the personality of his mother and the drive of his father. He knew, that to succeed in life, you can't watch the clock and one has to go after business when and where it is to be found. Like his mother he was very pleasant and known as: "The friendliest guy". And like his father he didn't shun long hours of work. But unlike his parents he did not go into the "Hotel Business". He started an Insurance Company in 1925 with his partner Abe Farber at 1015 Jericho Turnpike. He did not sit at the office and wait for clients, but went to visit people. He was congenial and always willing to give advise when needed. That surely paid off. More and more people has their insurance handled by him and the business grew. In time he dissolved the partnership and moved the office in 1950 to 820 Jericho Turnpike. That used to be the location of "HAUSCH HOTEL". At that time the population of the Village greatly increased and so did his business. More and more desks had to be put into the office and more people employed to do all the paper work.

Henry prospered and he and his wife Lois have 2 children Roger and Vivian, both attorneys. Needless to say a man like Henry was very active in community affairs. When the Village was organized, he served as the First Village Clerk. He also was a Village Assessor, Secretary of the New Hyde park Fire Department, a member of the Board of Trade and a lifelong member of his church and political club.



Henry J. Hausch residence.
Hillside Boulevard

Henry Hausch, New Hyde Park Founder

By Tony Schaeffer
staff writer

Henry J. Hausch, 91, of Garden City, a founder of the Village of New Hyde Park, died Monday at Winthrop-University Hospital, Mineola.

Mr. Hausch was president of Hausch Real Estate & Insurance, New Hyde Park, for 45 years beginning in 1925 and thereafter maintained a very busy consulting schedule until last year.

He was active in New Hyde Park's incorporation as a self-governing village in 1927 and he volunteered to be the first village clerk, serving at no salary for almost a year until the first tax-roll income could be obtained to hire someone else.

In addition, he served as village assessor for many years and for a decade on the Nassau County Board of Assessors.

Mr. Hausch also had been active in New Hyde Park Fire Department and in the Sewanhaka School District. He handled the property acquisition for the land on which Sewanhaka High School was built.

He was a 50-year member of the Floral Park Masonic Lodge and of the New Hyde Park Elks.

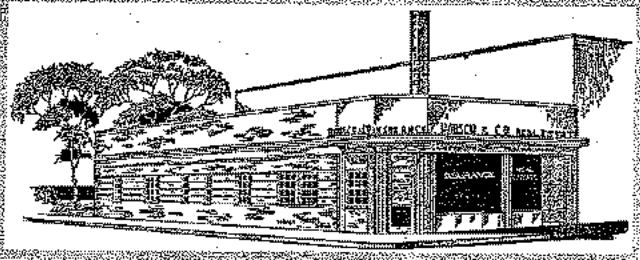
Mr. Hausch moved to Garden City about 20 years ago.

He is survived by a daughter, Vivian Hausch of Mount Vernon, N.Y.; a son, Roger, of Garden City, and two sisters, Ann Hausch of Westbury and Rita Hausch of Washingtonville, N.Y. His wife, Lois, died in 1971.

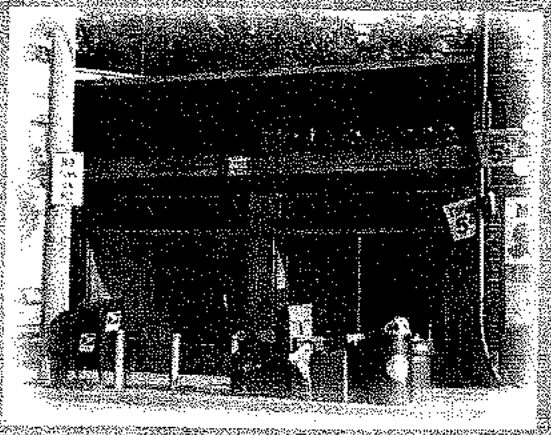
A service was scheduled for 10 a.m. today at the Fulchbil-Sons Funeral Home, Garden City, with burial in Greenfield Cemetery, Hempstead.

The Hausch Insurance Agency is still in existence at the same address, but now operates under the name:

"TREIBER-SALERNO INC."
820 Jericho Turnpike
New Hyde Park, NY



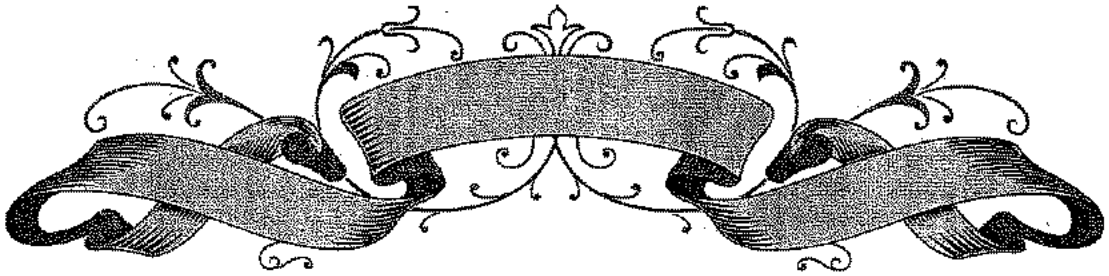
1996 - Henry Hausch Real Estate, Insurance. 810 Jericho Turnpike

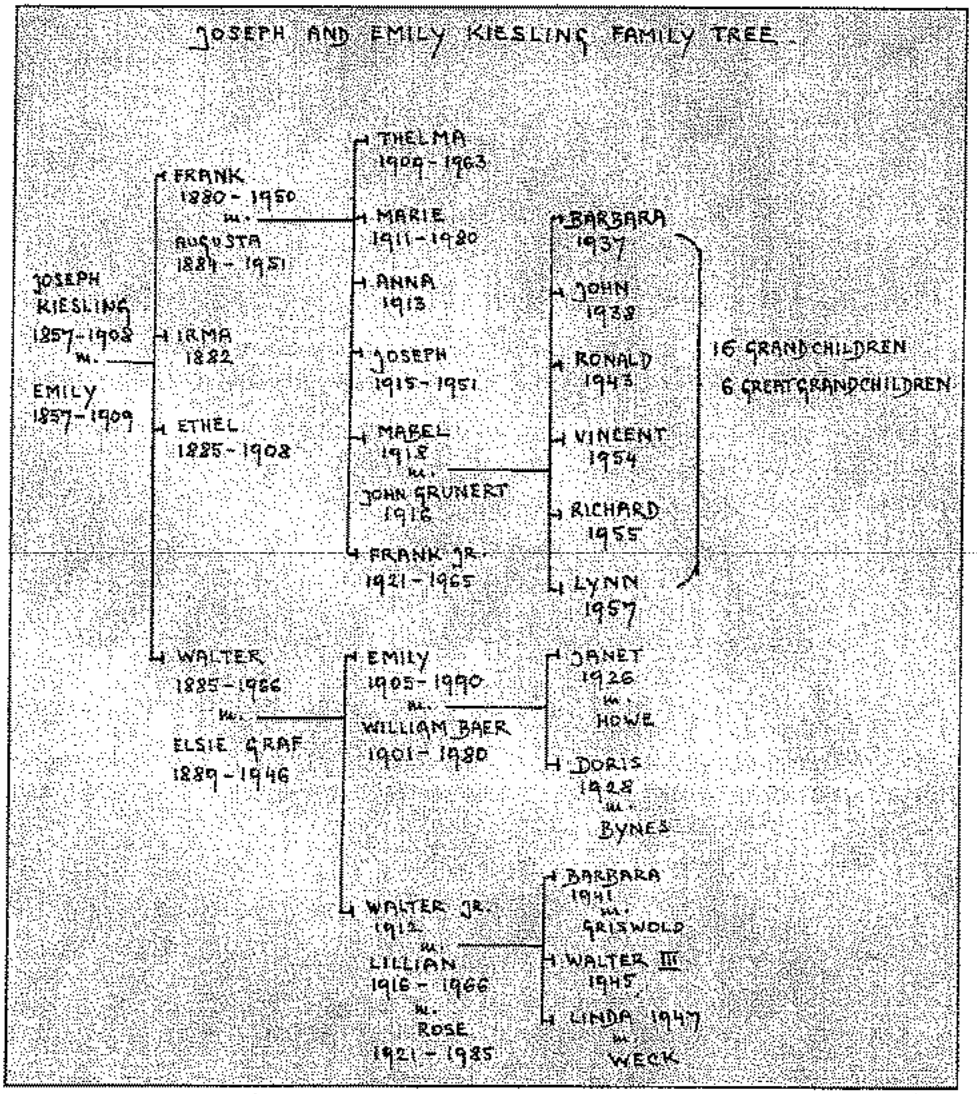


Hausch and Company, Inc., Real Estate and Insurance Specialists. 810 Jericho Turnpike

1996 - Jericho Turnpike. Euro-Deli is where Henry Hausch started his real estate and insurance business in the 1920s.

1925 - Along Jericho Turnpike - (right to left) Horowitz, Floor Covering, Brau's Ice Cream Store, Hausch and Farber Real Estate and Insurance, Frenger and Nelius Plumbing and a delicatessen. 1019 Jericho Turnpike (on the corner) is now Reinwald Bakery.




JOSEPH AND EMILY KIESLING FAMILY TREE
JOSEPH KIESLING 1857-1908
m.
EMILY 1857-1909
FRANK 1880-1950
m.
AUGUSTA 1881-1951
IRMA 1882
ETHEL 1885-1908
WALTER 1885-1966
m.
ELSIE GRAF 1889-1946
THELMA 1909-1963
MARIE 1911-1980
ANNA 1913
JOSEPH 1915-1951
MABEL 1918
m.
JOHN GRUNERT 1916
FRANK JR. 1921-1965
EMILY 1905-1990
m.
WILLIAM BAER 1901-1980
WALTER JR. 1913
m.
LILLIAN 1916-1966
m.
ROSE 1921-1985
BARBARA 1937
JOHN 1938
RONALD 1943
VINCENT 1954
RICHARD 1955
LYNN 1957
JANET 1926
m.
HOWE
DORIS 1928
m.
BYNES
BARBARA 1941
m.
GRISWOLD
WALTER III 1945
LINDA 1947
m.
WECK
16 GRANDCHILDREN
6 GREATGRANDCHILDREN

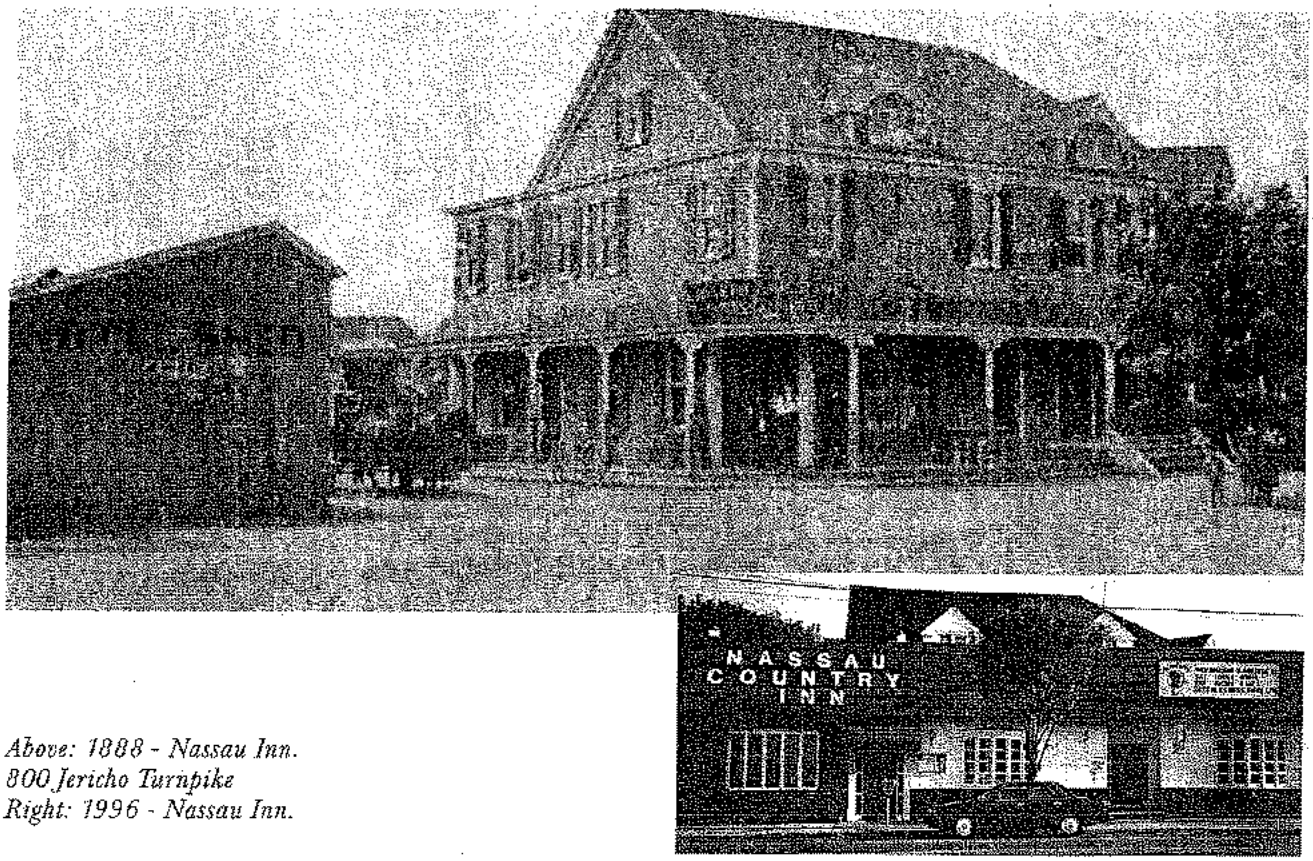
19 - The Kiesling Family

Contributors to the story: Walter Kiesling in Florida and Mable Grunert of New Hyde Park

In 1888 yet another German family moved to New Hyde Park. They were the Kieslings. Joseph Kiesling was a shoemaker who learned the trade in Germany. When he came to this country he first settled in Brooklyn where he met Emily Thalen, another German whom he married, Shortly after his 4th and last child Walter Carl was born in 1885, he had the opportunity to acquire a shoe shop in Hicksville and moved himself and his family to the Island. From start to finish his shoes were all handmade, which today is a lost art. So it is surprising, that he turned his back on his craft and started to work at an Inn in Hicksville. Maybe there was not enough demand for his shoes or probably he thought he could make more money in another field. At any rate, when in 1888 the Nassau Inn in New Hyde Park was up for sale, he bought it and started to operate it. In addition to the lodgings for the merchants and farmers, he also had stables and grooms for their horses and once again a wife had to chip in. Emily did the housework and all the cooking and at times there were a great many mouths to feed, especially early in the 20th century when the Vanderbilt Cup Races were held. They certainly were good for business in New Hyde Park. And, especially being a proprietor of an inn, one could make money. Joseph and Emily prospered, but in 1908 Joseph died and Emily followed him to the grave a year later.

A stately veranda surrounded the Nassau Inn, then owned by Joseph Kiesling, during this early 1900s. photo taken during the Vanderbuilt Cup Races.

Teddy Roosevelt's photograph graced the bar at the old Nassau Inn when this shot was taken.



Above: 1888 - Nassau Inn.
800 Jericho Turnpike
Right: 1996 - Nassau Inn.

Meanwhile, son Frank was running the inn, until 1917 when it was sold to a Mr. Epp. By that time roads were improved, the automobile was in use and fewer farmers had the need for the stables. And, there was another reason: the Temperance Movement was on the march and in 1919 they succeeded. The sale of liquor was prohibited.

Joseph was an activist. There was an organization in the village with over 200 members, which was a mutual aid society. Everybody was assessed $1.00 for a death benefit for anyone of its members. Joseph Kiesling was the treasurer and his son Frank the secretary. Joseph was on the school building committee and had seen the completion of the school on the corner of Jericho Turnpike and New Hyde Park Road. And, once again, his son Frank served with him and was the clerk at the first Board of Education.

Frank Kiesling

Frank was working with his father, not only at the business, but also in the community. He managed the inn very well, but it was hard work and his interests lay elsewhere. People just started to use electricity and somehow he became an electrical wizard. He tried to get all the information he could and educated himself. He was also fascinated by trains. So, he turned the management of the inn over to his brother Walter and sister Ethel and took a job with the Long Island Rail Road. Before long he had several mechanical improvements and some inventions amongst them, an important one which are the SEMI-FORES for the railroad and are still in use today. But, it brought him neither fame, nor money. Therefore, we want to recognize him today: **"A humble man, but with great talent."** Frank was Married to Augusta Reckenbeil and they had 6 children.

Park Road, (the area that is now the Oaks) was just all trees. We called it the woods. In the spring, the teachers from the Road School would take us for a walk to the woods. We would carry a bag lunch and have a picnic there.

There were no TVs and no movie houses. The nearest movie house was in Floral Park. We paid five cents to see a matinee. We amused ourselves with games. We played hide-and-seek, tag, hop-scotch, and jump rope outside, when the weather was nice. When we stayed indoors, we played games such as checkers, tick-tack-toe, hangman and pin the tail on the donkey.

In the summer we waited patiently for the Carnival to come to town. The Firemen's Parade was a big event. The Sunday School picnics to the beach was another big event, and the excursions on the Long Island Railroad to Blue Point for the day, was also enjoyed by many.

I'm still living in New Hyde Park, one block from the street where I was born. My six children grew up in New Hyde Park, going to the same schools I went to, New Hyde Park Road School and Sewanhaka High School. John, Vincent and Richard live in New Hyde Park. Barbara lives in Huntington, Ronald in Amityville and Lynn in Greenlawn. I have sixteen grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

My husband John also grew up in New Hyde Park. His father Vincent Grunert worked for a time for the Long Island Railroad. After that he worked for Hausch's Bakery, located on Jericho Turnpike and South Eleventh Street, delivering bakery goods by horse and carriage. We used to buy buns and jelly doughnuts, three for five cents, they were so delicious. John was in the Navy during World War II. He passed away from a heart attack at the age 43 on December 29, 1959.

My children gave me a surprise 75th birthday party in December 1993. I keep telling them I'm going to live to be one hundred. God willing, I will.

Mable Kiesling Grunert residence.
First Avenue

New Hyde Park Families Intermarriages

Reckenbeil, Simon, Kiesling, Grunert, Klein, Henderson, Zeir

George Robert Reckenbeil & Annie Dora Simon Recknebeil

George R. Reckenbeil	1858-1915
Annie Simon Reckenbeil	1862-1928
Mable Reckenbeil	1881-1883
George Reckenbeil, Jr.	1883-19
Louise Reckenbeil	-1963
Augusta Reckenbeil Kiesling	1884-1951
Frank J. Kiesling	1880-1950
Thelma Kiesling	1909-1963
Marie Kiesling	1911-1980
Anna Kiesling	1913-
Joseph Kiesling	1915-1951
Mable Kiesling Grunert	1918
John Grunert	1916-1959
Barbara Grunert	1937-
John Grunert	1938
Ronald Grunert	1943-
Vincent Grunert	1954-
Richard Grunert	1955-
Lynn Grunert	1957-

Minnie Reckenbeil Klein	1886-1979
Edward Klein	1881-1956
George Klein	
Ella Klein	
Annie Reckenbeil Henderson	1888-
Josephine Reckenbeil	1890-1890
Mary Reckenbeil Zeir	1891-1982
Galvin Zeir	-1954
Arthur Reckenbeil	1893-1948
Anna Reckenbeil	
Arthur Reckenbeil, Jr.	1925-
Charles Reckenbeil	1894-19
John Reckenbeil	1897-1921
Royal Reckenbeil	1903-1904

Additional Obituaries of former New Hyde Park Residents

Elizabeth W. Lindquist

NEW HYDE PARK—Services for Mrs. Elizabeth W. Lindquist, 74, of Jericho turnpike, here, will be held tomorrow in the Mortimer D. Jones Funeral Home, 21 West Columbia street, Hempstead.

Mrs. Lindquist, who was injured when she fell from the steps of a Brooklyn church Sunday, died Wednesday in Nassau Hospital.

She leaves her husband, Andrew G., and four children, Joseph R., Oscar H., Gustave C. and Mrs. Margaret Lain.

Interment will be in Greenfield Cemetery.

November 1936

Agatha A. Claus, 101, Spirited Volunteer

For more than half a century, Agatha A. Claus, who died last Thursday at age 101, was deeply involved in New Hyde Park municipality affairs.

"She was very active in town, she couldn't do enough for people," said a son, Charles Claus, of Uniondale. "I can remember as a boy in grade school, she was treasurer of the Union Free School District No. 6" in New Hyde Park.

Mrs. Claus was a charter member of the New Hyde Park Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary, serving as its president in 1941 and 1942. She still belonged to the organization at the time of her death.

She also had been president, in the late 1940s, of the G&F Linder VFW Post Ladies' Auxiliary. That post was founded in 1946, Charles Claus said, when four of Mrs. Claus' sons returned from the war.

She was the eldest of 12 children, born on the family farm on Dry Harbor Road in Middle Village, Queens.

In 1918, she married Joseph Claus, a shipping clerk. He passed away in 1972.

Mrs. Claus raised nine children, seven of whom survive her.

Charles Claus said after the children grew up, his mother took a job as a cook for pastors at the Holy Ghost Roman Catholic Church, now Holy Spirit, in New Hyde Park.

She worked there for a number of years and then went to work for at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Garden City.

"She worked until she couldn't work anymore, and she drove her own car until she was 82," Charles Claus said. "I had a job getting her to stop."

In addition to Charles, Mrs. Claus is survived by two daughters, Agatha Rivett of Orange, N.J., and Theresa Williams of Rancho Cordova, Calif; and four sons, Joseph of Anaheim, Calif., Andrew of Old Bethpage, Thomas of Lake Powell, Calif., and Raymond of Fairfax, Va.; three brothers, Harry Kellner of Mohawk, N.Y., George Kellner of Stratford, N.Y., Bill Kellner of Ocala, Fla.; and two sisters, Anna Sartor of Dearborn Heights, Mich., and Margie Sartor of the Valley Forge, Pa., area. She is also survived by 31 grandchildren, 45 great-grandchildren and a great-great-granddaughter.

A funeral mass was held Monday at Holy Spirit. Interment was in Pinelawn Memorial Park, Pinelawn.

December 20, 1995

L. Filasky Sr., Farmer

By Sidney C. Schaer
STAFF WRITER

In the end, Leonard G. Filasky Sr. was simply a man who liked to grow things.

Mr. Filasky, 76, died Wednesday after a heart attack at his home in Laurel on Long Island's North Fork. And while he may have stopped selling produce from a landmark fruit and vegetable stand in Neaconset, even in retirement he still grew greenhouse tomatoes near his new home, stubbornly selling them to East End roadside stands under the Filasky farm label.

"He always thought of himself as a farmer," said son Leonard Jr., who for many years had to do some of his family's heaviest lifting when his father farmed more than 35 acres of leased land in St. James and Riverhead, specializing in tomatoes and corn.

Mr. Filasky was born on his father's potato farm in New Hyde Park on Sept. 11, 1919. A graduate of Chaminade High School in 1936, he earned a bachelor's of science degree from St. John's University in 1942.

During World War II, he rose from the rank of private to captain serving with the U.S. Army's Medical Corps, and it was at Camp McCain in Mississippi that he met and eventually married an Army nurse, Rose Marie Boldini. The couple celebrated their 52d wedding anniversary last March.

After the war, Mr. Filasky returned to Long Island to work at first with his father and later with a brother-in-law.

In the mid-1950s he moved his family to a house along what was then a new bypass around Smithtown, Route 347. According to his son, Mr. Filasky was working as a sales manager for Canada Dry, but slowly began taking advantage of their home's location along a highway, at first selling tomatoes under an awning. Eventually he built several greenhouses and a permanent farmstand. An apple cider press was added in 1972 while an antique wagon touting the family's agricultural history on Long Island dating to 1901 was parked out front.

And although his farmstand was eventually surrounded by suburban development, including a Cadillac dealer next door, Mr. Filasky, an unpretentious man, once conceded in an interview that farming was a gambler's game: "I'm a gambler at heart in this business. It seems as if everything is against you. If it isn't the weather, it's the machinery, and if it's not the machinery, it's the help . . ."

About five years ago, the familiar Filasky name disappeared from the Smithtown bypass when he decided to sell the property.

Surviving in addition to his wife and son is another son, John, of Port Jefferson; two daughters, Carol Ann Arndt of Mamaroneck and Mary Alice Lehn of Mattituck; two sisters, Dorothy Clifford, of Bayville and Lillian Goodmanson, of Cold Spring Harbor; four grandchildren, two step-grandchildren, and a step great-grandchild.

Mr. Filasky was buried yesterday in Sacred Heart Cemetery, near snow-covered potato fields not very much different from the world in which he grew up and spent a lifetime cultivating.

December 24, 1993

Hot Fight In New Hyde Park For Police Magistrate

David Holman Opposing Marcus Christ in Contest That Puts Balance of Ticket in the Shade

There is a red-hot fight going on in New Hyde Park over the position of Police Magistrate, and it promises to eclipse anything and everything in that village until election day, Tuesday, March 20th.

Marcus J. Christ

Although there are two positions to be filled on the Board of Trustees this year, and although both the Citizens' Party and the Public Affairs Association have complete tickets in the field, the fight has simmered down to who will be police magistrate of that village for the next four years, beginning January 1st, 1929.

Marcus Christ, the standard-bearer of the Citizens' Party, is a well-known young lawyer of that community, is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, and an LL.B. of Harvard Law School. Starting in the practice of law a few years ago, Mr. Christ has made great strides in his profession. Marcus Christ was born in New Hyde Park, and of course has a host of friends who are out working for him.

Equally well known in New Hyde Park is David Holman, also a young and promising lawyer, and the standard bearer of the Public Affairs Association. "Davy," as he is known to his many friends, was also born in New Hyde Park, and has a large following there.

Holman claims that the recent caucus of the Citizens' Party was a steamroller affair, and in answer to this Abe Farber, secretary of the Citizens Party, has given us the following statement:

"An article appeared in some of the newspapers last week, headed "Holman Yields," and contains certain statements and insinuations which I believe should be refuted. Mr. Holman is quoted as saying that when he ran in the caucus of the

David Holman

Citizens Party for the nomination for Police Justice of the Village of New Hyde Park, that he did not get a fair deal, and because of that he was justified in breaking his pledge to support the choice of the caucus, Marcus G. Christ.

"It is significant that this caucus was called partly at Mr. Holman's request, that the men who attended it comprised practically all of the men who actively supported the Citizens ticket at the last Village election, and that before the caucus convened Mr. Holman was shown a full list of all the names of men who were invited to attend the caucus and was asked if there were any names he wanted to add, and all the persons whom he asked to have invited were invited and appeared at the caucus.

Caucus Work Defended by Its Secretary

A. Robert Farber Says Holman Got Square Deal At Meeting

The following letter was received by the New Hyde Park Leader, in defense of the caucus which placed Marcus G. Christ in nomination for police justice of the village:

Dear Editor:

An article appearing in the Brooklyn Daily Times on Monday, March 5, 1928, headed "Holman Cields," contains certain statements and insinuations which I believe should be refuted. Mr. Holman is quoted as saying that when he ran in the caucus of the Citizens' Party for the nomination of Police Justice of the Village of New Hyde Park, that he did not get a *fair* deal, and because of that he was justified in breaking his pledge to support the choice of the caucus, Marcus G. Christ.

It is significant that this caucus was called partly at Mr. Holman's instigation. That the men who attended it comprised practically all of the men who actively supported the Citizens' ticket at the last village election, and that before the caucus convened Mr. Holman was shown a full list of all the names of men who were invited to attend the caucus and was asked if there were any names he wanted to add, and all the persons whom he asked to have invited were invited and appeared at the caucus. That when the caucus assembled Mr. Holman knew when he was in the meeting who was present and both he and Mr. Christ were asked to pledge themselves to support the nominees of the caucus, which they did. Mr. Christ was nominated by a vote of 26 to 5 and Mr. Holman again reiterated his promise to support the ticket of the Citizens' Party. If Mr. Holman believes that all of the men who voted in favor of Christ and against were out to trick him, one of their own members, his indictment is very large, and a slander on some of the most representative citizens of this community.

After Mr. Holman has broken his pledge to the 31 citizens of New Hyde Park that he would abide by their decision, and after he has deserted the Citizens' Party, of which he was an active member, it does not seem to the writer that statements from Mr. Holman such as have appeared in the Brooklyn Daily Times come from him at this time with good grace.

CITIZENS' PARTY.
A. Robert Farber, Secretary.

Left: 1927 - Police magistrate election articles.

Above: 1925 - Principal Horace Cross, New Hyde Park School. Photo: Charles Cross, Georgia

NEW HYDE PARK BOARD OF TRADE

JOHN H. KOLLOCK, *President*
DR. JOSHUA BLOCH, *Vice-President*
DAVID H. STONE, *Secretary*

JOHN H. THIELING, *Treasurer*
FRITZ J. C. WOLF, *Financial Secretary*
FREDERICK J. BROWN, *Sergeant-at-Arms*

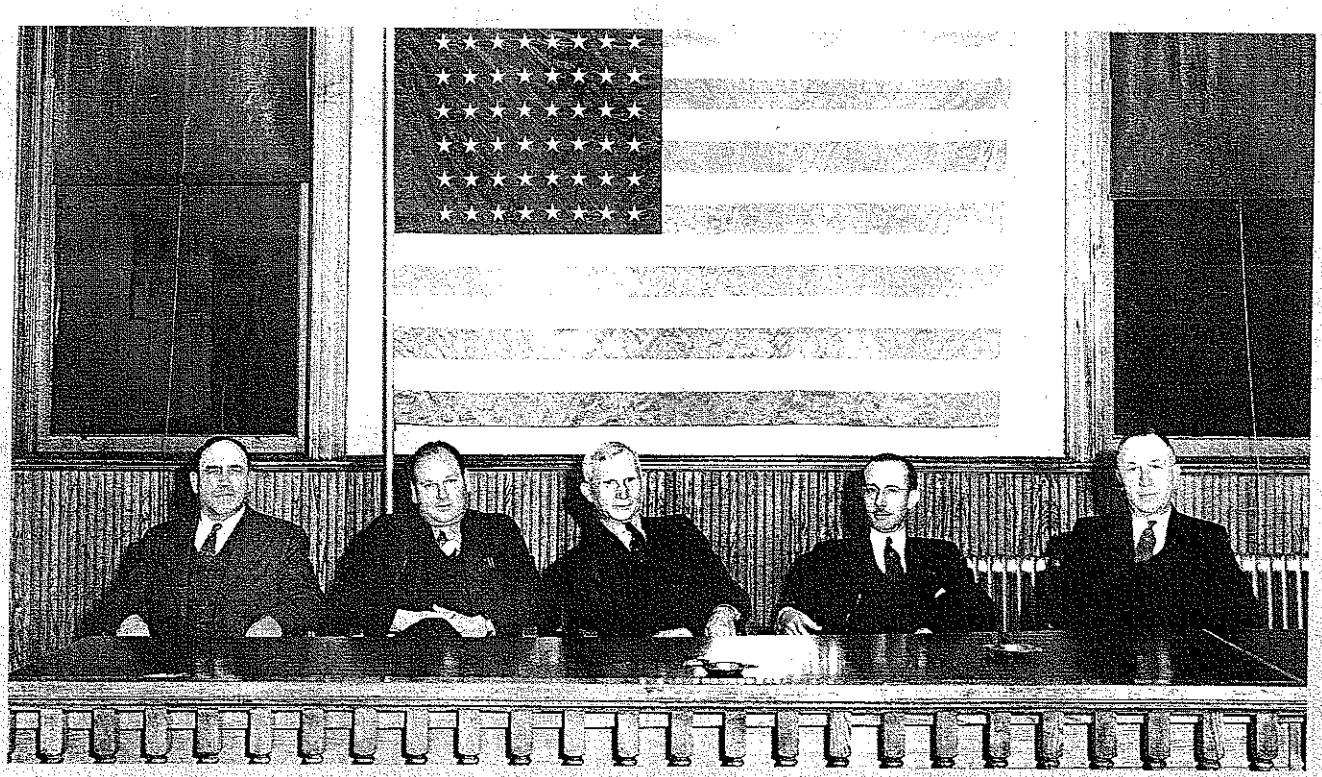
PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

WILLIAM A. KIELMANN, *Chairman*
HENRY J. HAUSCH, *Secretary* DAVID HOLMAN, *Treasurer*

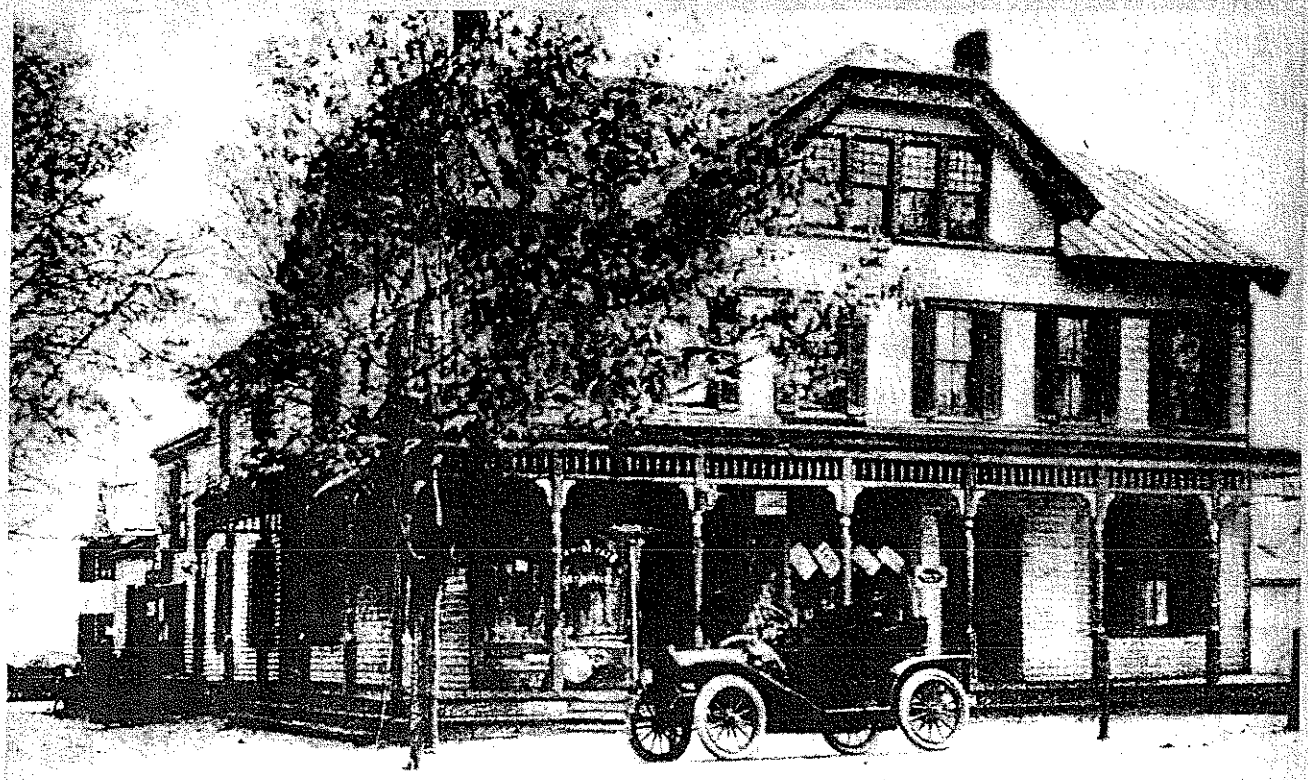
Herman H. Baer	John C. Kiefer	Max S. Rendel
Dr. Joshua Bloch	J. Nicholas Krag	Richard Roberts
William D. Bowie	Rudolf Kurz	Harry A. Schroeder
Marcus G. Christ	Leo H. Liebel	Harry Sheppard
A. Robert Farber	Dr. Benjamin Master	John H. Thieling
Benedict Hauck	William Paradis	Charles H. Weckerle

Section 2 - The Village

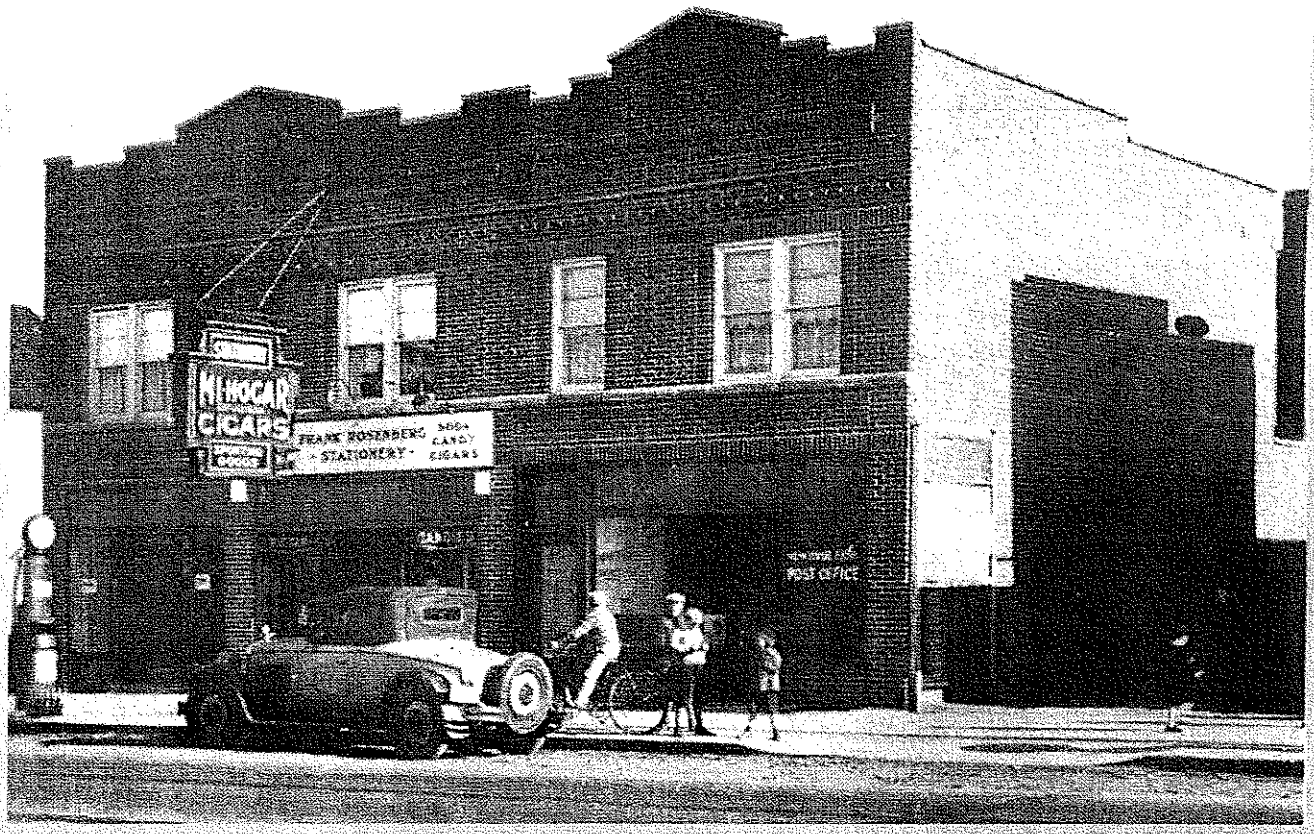
20 The Post Office
21 Churches
22 Schools
23 Fire Department
24 Medicine
25 War
26 New Hyde Park Inn
27 Development of Jericho Turnpike
28 "Vanderbilt Cup" Races
29 Long Island Railroad
30 The Bank of New Hyde Park - A Pictorial
31 Historic Houses - A Pictorial



1935 - Village Board. Left to Right: George E. Christ, Sr., Philip Miller, Herman Baer, Cyril Cox, J. William Hoffmann.



1905 - The second Post Office (1880-1920) in New Hyde Park.
Postmasters were Rosina Christ, P. J. Miller, Anna Lemstiner and Philip J. Christ.
1218 Jericho Turnpike
Photo: Henry Poelker



The third Post Office in New Hyde Park.
Postmaster Frank Rosenberg.
1314 Jericho Turnpike

20 - The Post Office

In 1871, Hyde Park had no Post Office yet. The ten families, who lived in the hamlet at the time, had to travel by horse and wagon to Hinsdale (Floral Park) to pick up their mail, which was not only a nuisance, but also time consuming as well. So to get a Post Office, they at first generated a lot of mail activity by having all their friends and relatives write to them. Then they petitioned the postal service, whose agent agreed on the need to have an office at Hyde Park. But the name had to be changed, there already was a Hyde Park Post Office in the state of New York, which was the village on the Hudson River. New was added to the name, and that's how the village became New Hyde Park. The custom at the time was to have the Post Office located at a store. The Postmaster was not yet a full time job, and the store owner was always there to take care of customers–not only the letters, stamps and parcel business, but his own as well. People came to pick up their mail and at the same time would buy something at the store.

John Christ was appointed the first postmaster. The office was located at his own grocery store and inn, which by that time had become the Hyde Park Hotel. After John Christ's death in 1885, Philip Miller was appointed postmaster. He moved the office across the street to a back room of the Miller Building, which today is Henry's Inn at the corner of Jericho Turnpike and Millers Lane. Until 1920, a Christ-Miller relative always served as postmaster: Rosina Christ Miller, Anna Lemstiner and Philip J. Christ.

In the 1920's, Frank Rosenberg had a small stationary store at 1314 Jericho Turnpike. After his appointment, the post office was located at his place. He also hired his sister Minnie as a postal clerk. The population increased, and in 1929 Frank Rosenberg built a larger building on his own property. He was still the postmaster, but Niles Taft was appointed to run the post office. There were now several employees in addition to Minnie Rosenberg: Charles Weckerle an R.F.D. postman and Jack Brandel and Joe Watson as local letter carriers.

Charles Weckerle, R.F.D. Postman, civil engineer, Village Engineer, County planning chairman.

In 1932, when F. D. Roosevelt was elected President, Congress appointed Jack Flynn, a democrat, to be Postmaster. As the population increased, a larger building was needed. The post office was moved to 1003 Jericho Turnpike, and more clerks and carriers were hired. When Jack Flynn passed away in 1948, a new postmaster had to be appointed. The 15-member selection board, which were the Democratic Zone Leaders, was looking for a suitable person. They found it in Andrew Wulforst and, after his congressional appointment, a new era began.

(Form 6 a.)

Post Office Department,

APPOINTMENT OFFICE,

February 27, 1871.

Sir:

Accompanying this you will receive a letter of appointment as Postmaster at New Haven Park. The salary to which you will be entitled, and which you will be allowed to retain out of the proceeds of your office, has been fixed at the sum of $12 per annum until it can be ascertained what the amount of business will be.

You will, therefore, at the end of each quarter, make and forward to the Third Assistant Postmaster General a statement, under oath, of the total value of postage stamps canceled during the quarter. Under the present regulations you are not required to keep a regular account of mails sent and received as heretofore, except *only of unpaid mail matter;* but informal memoranda, made day by day, of mails sent from your office prepaid by stamps, will enable you to make the required quarterly statement.

Your salary cannot exceed the amount to which the office would be entitled from commissions and box rents under the former law, but will be readjusted at the proper time by the Postmaster General, on the basis of the amount of business done as shown by the quarterly statements above required.

I am, respectfully, &c.,

J. W. Marshall
First Assistant Postmaster General.

To John C. Church, Esq.

Above: 1871 Post Office Appointment Letter.
Right: 1872 Post Office Appointment Letter.

Post Office Department,

APPOINTMENT OFFICE,

June 1, 1872.

Sir:

As required by the 2d section of the Act approved July 1, 1864, to establish salaries for Postmasters, and for other purposes, the Postmaster General has reviewed the returns from your office, assigned said office to the 5th class, and fixed the annual salary of the Postmaster at $57 from 1st July, 1872.

The amount of this salary has been fixed, in conformity with the requirements of the law, in even hundreds or tens of dollars, according to its class.

I am, respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

First Assistant Postmaster General.

Postmaster, Lit. Hyde Park

Vt.

Salary $57.00

Per annum

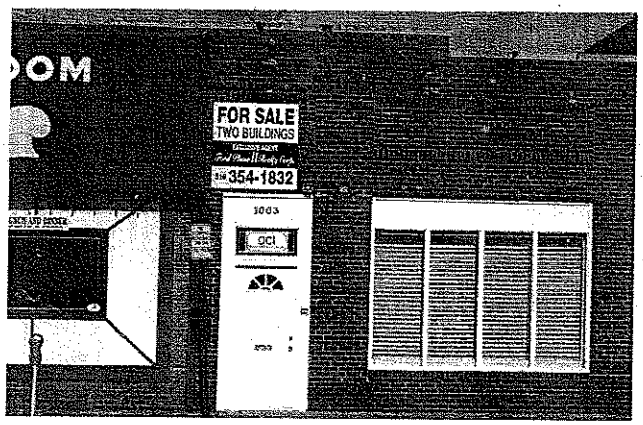
Who is Andrew Wulforst? He was not born in New Hyde Park, but his parents moved to the village when he was only 4 years old. He was educated at the local Catholic school. As a boy he already showed organizational abilities by forming groups of children to play. In World War II, he served his country in the European Theater. After returning home, he continued organizing. He was a charter member and commander of the V.F.W., and he expended great effort in organizing dances, picnics and outings, and was the leader of young Democrats.

When a democratic zone leader of the city visited his club, he could hardly believe what he saw. For years, democrats tried to make inroads in this staunch republican county without success. Now they found a young man who was able to have a big club going. Andrews secret was his personality. He genuinely loved people and was always willing to help them. If somebody needed a doctor or lawyer, Andrew would find one. If somebody needed some merchandise, Andrew would find a place where one could purchase it at a reduced price. If somebody needed a shoulder to cry on, Andrew not only provided the shoulder but cried too. No wonder that the selection committee chose Andrew. Later he had to be confirmed by congress. The post office moved again. It was now at 1609 Jericho Turnpike.

Andrew liked a good time, but he also was a hard worker. He didn't mix business and pleasure. He ran the post office by the book and demanded devotion to the job. He was strict, but fair. Therefore, he was greatly liked by the employees who affectionately called him Andy amongst themselves and over the years gave him several testimonial dinners.

Up until now, all the progress and improvements in the village were a team effort. Collectively, the citizens circulated petitions or raised money to get things done. Andrew did it by himself. He was the one who changed the post office. Although the population greatly increased after the war, we still

Far Right: The fourth Post Office in New Hyde Park. Postmaster Jack Flynn. 1003 Jericho Turnpike
Right: Postmaster Andrew Wulforst - 34 years of postal service in New Hyde Park and Long Island City.
Bottom: The fifth Post Office in New Hyde Park. Postmaster Andrew Wulforst. 1609 Jericho Turnpike

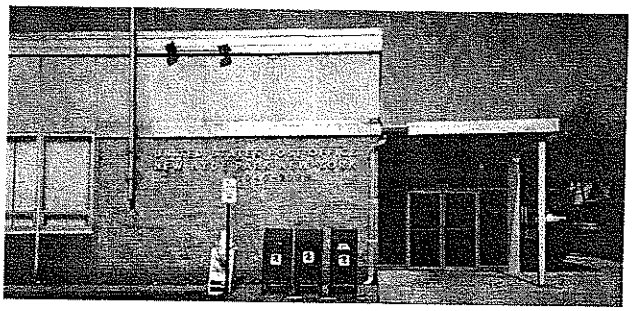


had only a small post office. Residents on certain streets still had to go and pick up their mail, Andrew wanted to change all that. He went to Washington to see the Postmaster General and came back with the promise for an additional mail truck. To expand the area, he visited the business establishments and offered them postal services, including having their meters set in New Hyde Park. More and more customers started to use the New Hyde Park post office. Andrew took more and more trips to Washington. More trucks, more employees and more need for bigger quarters. Washington gave him the green light, and Andrew very successfully negotiated the purchase of the George Baer property at 1001 2nd Avenue. The new building on the site is still our main post office.

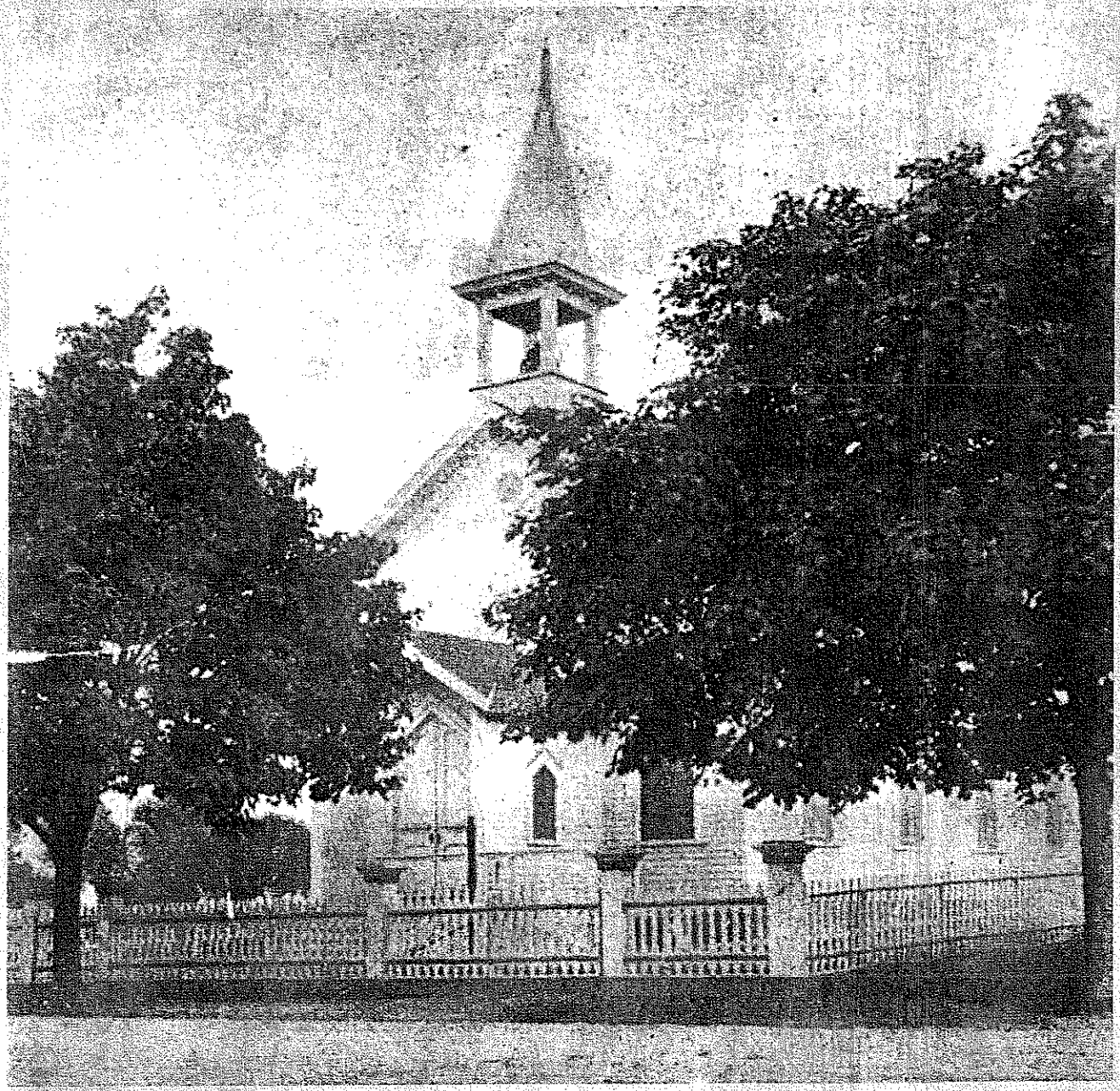
Eventually a second building was added at 1301 2nd Avenue, a post office on Hillside Avenue and a substation established in the shopping center at Lake Success. Andrew never lost his love of people, so to no one's surprise, he was elected president of the National Postmasters Association. He served as the New Hyde Park Postmaster for 23 years. When he was about to retire, he was offered the job as Postmaster of the Long Island City Postal Complex. Andrew did not want to leave the area and decided to pass up that promotion. But his service was so great and his leadership abilities greatly needed, that the law was changed. Andrew was permitted to live in New Hyde Park, but work in Long Island City. That post office was large, and he had 1,000 employees under his supervision. At that office, he served for an other 11 years. He is alive and well and lives with his wife Claire on South 14th Street.

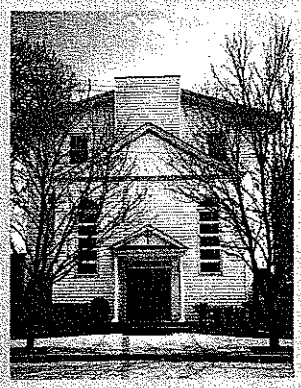
In 1967, John McClean became the next Postmaster of New Hyde Park and after him, in 1970, Emerson Gilmore. By now the postal service has once more greatly changed. Postmasters are not political appointments, but come up through the ranks. Our present postmaster is Joseph Capone.

We are not a sleepy little town anymore, but a large community. Our post office too, even without Andrew, would be large. But due to the efforts of just one man, we have a post office with First Class rating and 11040 area code that reaches from the city line to Herricks Road and south from the Expressway to the Garden City-Stewart Manor line. Many people contributed to the expansion, improvement and well being of New Hyde Park, but Andrew was our most energetic citizen.



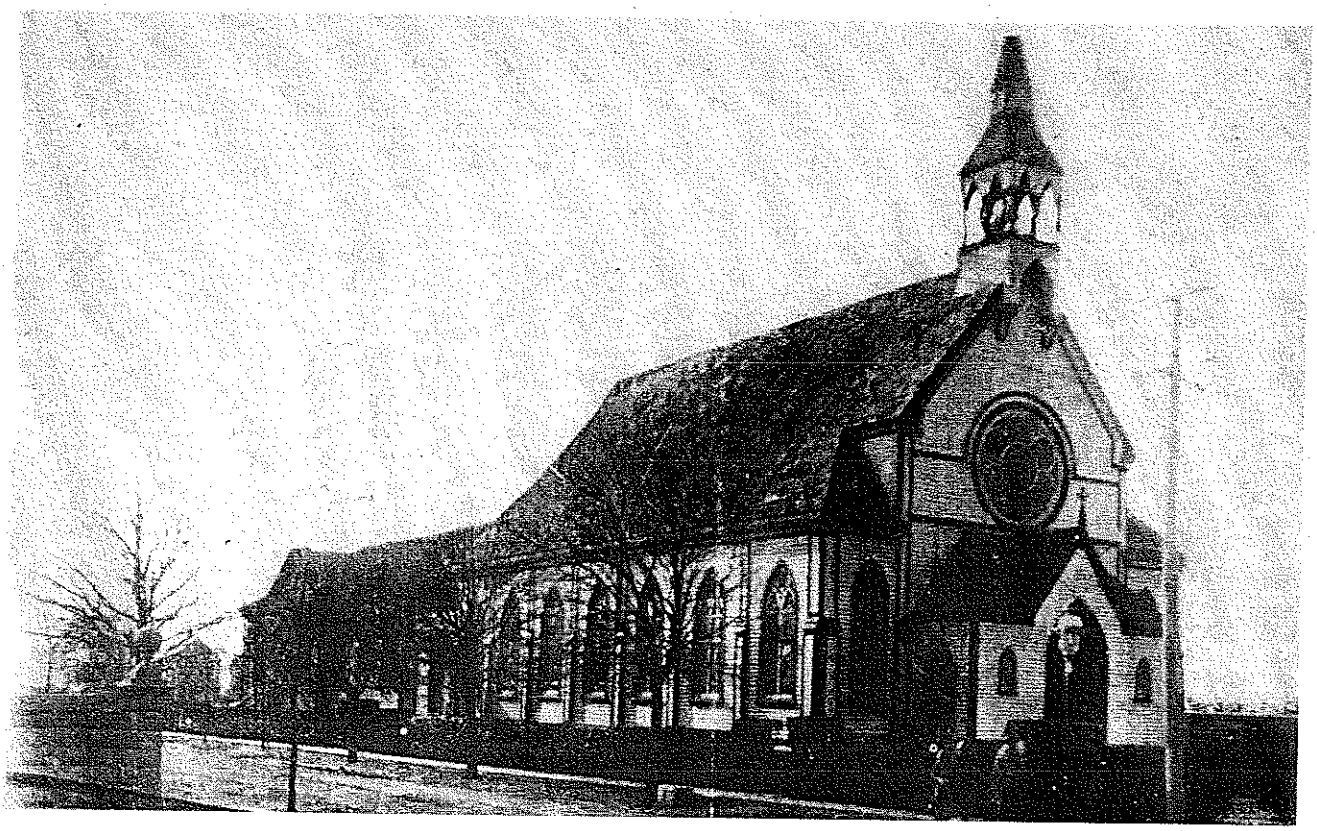
Top Left: Post Office on 2nd Avenue. The property was purchased from George Baer.
Bottom Left: Hillside Post Office.
Right: Congressman Steve Derounian and Postmaster Andrew Wulforst at opening the new Post Office on 2nd Avenue.





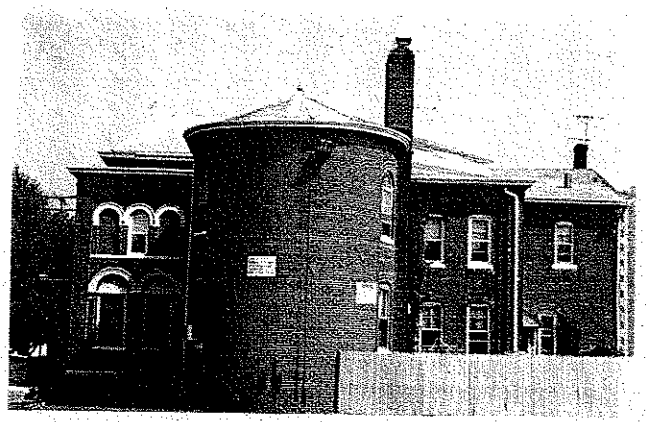
Above: The Reformed Church, Hyde Park, NY
Photo: Harold E. Weidner
Left and right: Bethany Bible Church (formerly the old firehouse)

21 - Churches



Holy Ghost Roman Catholic Church

At first the Catholic families who lived in this area had to go to St. Boniface Church in Elmont to worship. As their number grew, a priest from St. Bridget Church in Westbury was assigned to them and masses were celebrated at Millers Hall, on the corner of Jericho Turnpike and Millers Lane. The year was 1893. But the congregation wanted a church building and through the efforts of about 30 families a church was built and dedicated in 1894 with the Rev. Herbert Farrell as their first Pastor. The original organizers were: Philip Miller, Ben Hauck, Philip J. Christ, and Mr. Lakey. The original parish membership was about 250.



Top: 1893 - Holy Ghost Catholic Church. Center: Holy Spirit Catholic Church, formerly Holy Ghost Church. Bottom: 1996 - St. Dominic Home purchased in 1897, formerly the Morganthaler Hotel and the Shalers Hotel. The building is 100 years old.

St. Hedwigs Church

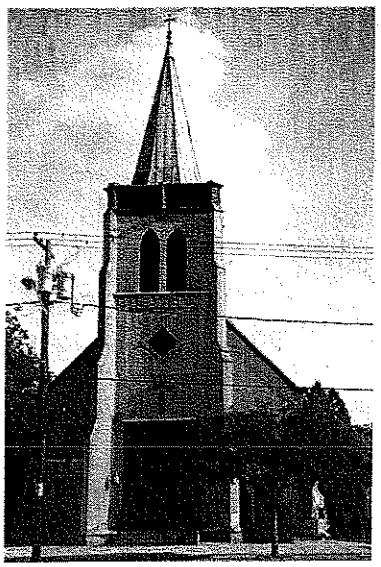
by Stanley Krupa

Around the turn of the century there were many Polish families living in the New Hyde Park area. They were Catholics and worshipped at the Holy Ghost Church. The parishioners at the church were Germans and had a German priest. The Polish people wanted a priest who could take their confessions in their own language. At that time masses were held at the Philip Miller Hall at Millers Lane and Jericho Turnpike. The following delegation petitioned the most Rev. Bishop McDonnell for a church of their own: Michael Wendelowski, Joseph Filarski, John Filarski, Frank Makowski and Andrew Janosik. The Bishop agreed to their request and named the Rev. Adolph Swierezynski their priest, and permission was given to build a Catholic Church in Floral Park. Father Swierezynski was tireless in visiting all the Polish families to raise money for the building. He rode his bicycle not only in New Hyde Park, but to Floral Park, Garden City Park, Roslyn, Mineola, Hempstead and Elmont.

In 1906, the St. Hedwig Roman Catholic Church was dedicated and Father Swierezynski served as pastor until 1911. He was succeeded by Father Franzis L. Wilamowski and served for 42 years until 1953.

The following families were the original organizers of the church:

Joseph Wishinetsky
William Sinski
Carl Jablomski
Adam Marakowski
Walter Stawecki
John Vienski
Peter Godesky
Joseph Nacewicz
Stanley Krupa
Edward Danowski
R. Hladky
G. A. Parsuski
Frank Guzobka
John Slawecki
Frank Kowalski
Adam Kowalski
Leo Sowinski
Alex Moculeski
Frank Peljowski
Franice Cofsky
Stanly Nowakowski
Chester Lopinski
Frank Filasky
Alex Delkowski
Milton Frankowski
Joseph Jezinski
Joseph Marakowski
Peter Gibulsky
Edward Chrzanowski
Edward Grygo
John Radetsky
Joseph Zupa
Edward Zulkofske
John Brezisky
Mike Galasieski



St. Hedwigs Roman Catholic Church.

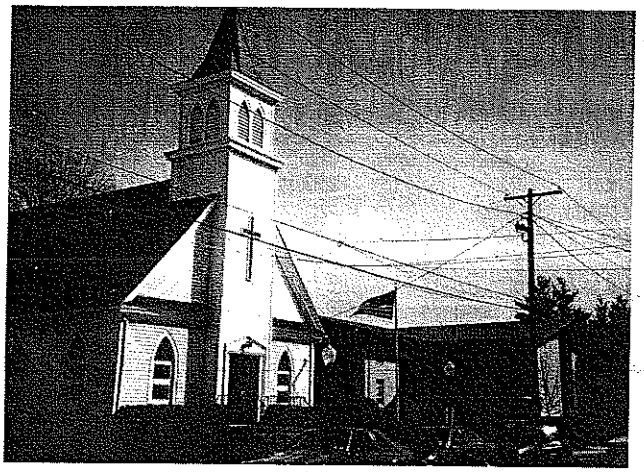
First Presbyterian Church

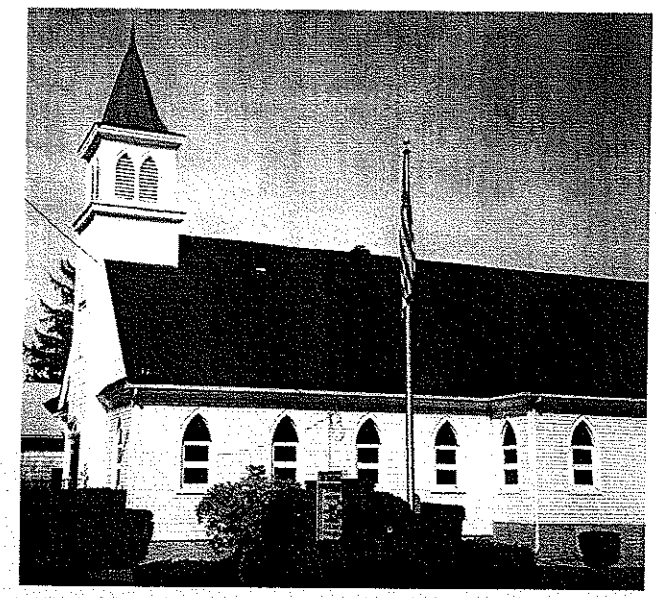
As early as the year 1890, thirteen years before any attempt was made to organize a Presbyterian Church in New Hyde Park, the Rev. John Schweitzer, pastor of St. Pauls Presbyterian Church of Elmont, conducted religious services in Miller's Hall (corner of Miller's Lane and Jericho Turnpike). Most of those who attended were members of the Elmont Church. When the Rev. R. J. Buttinghausen became pastor of the Elmont Church, he recognized the importance of establishing a mission in New Hyde Park. It was largely through his foresight that a chapel was built in 1902. Six lots of land were purchased from the Taft Estate on South 9th Street where the church presently stands. The property had been deeded to St. Pauls Presbyterian Church in Elmont. When the trustee of that church refused to sign a mortgage for $1,000.00, the people of the New Hyde Park Mission then incorporated as a separate body on August 6, 1903. This newly formed organization had 22 members. The foundation for the church was laid in December 1901. It was not until 1903 that plans were completed for the new enterprise. The pulpit was supplied by students from the Bloomfield Seminary for almost a year. In 1904, the Rev. William Mayer was installed as a permanent pastor in August of that year. All the

services at that time were conducted in German. Rev. Mayer left the church in 1910. The church was served by a succession of pastors from that time as follows to the present day:

Rev. Eugene Berger	June 20, 1911 - 1913
Rev. Gottlieb Ruesch	Sept. 2, 1913 - Dec. 31, 1929
Rev. Daniel Nicholson	Sept. 22, 1930 - Dec. 1, 1935
Rev. Harrison Geist	Jan. 17, 1937 - Oct. 15, 1938
Rev. Garland Lacey	Apr. 17, 1940 - May 31, 1946
Rev. Kenneth Brown	Dec. 4, 1946 - Jan. 31, 1979
Rev. Domel Fritz	May 4, 1980 - Nov. 20, 1982
Rev. Kevin Bowers	Dec. 11, 1983 - Present

The Village of New Hyde Park grew considerably over the years, and the church needed to erect a Christian Education Building to provide more room for church services and Sunday School. This was accomplished in 1962. The church celebrated its 75th Anniversary in 1978. On August 5, 1981, the church suffered a devastating fire, practically demolishing the structure. Services were held in the Christian Education Building during the reconstruction period which was completed in 1982. The Church was rededicated on June 6, 1982. Since then we have seen many changes, not only in the Village but elsewhere in the nation as well. However, the Presbyterian Church still stands, hopefully, for many more years to come.





Left top and bottom: 1996 - Presbyterian Church, Office and School. 16 South 9th Street
Below: The First Presbyterian Church - In the early 1890's, there were less than ten homes on the North side of Jericho Turnpike and none at all on the south side of the Railroad tracks. Only the Roman Catholic Church and the Reformed Church existed. Presbyterian services were conducted in Miller's Hall (now Henry's Inn). The Presbyterian Congregation purchased six lots of land on the South 9th Street and in December of 1901 a foundation was laid. The mortgage for the church was taken by Mr. Marx Gottsch, the father of Mrs. Philip G. Christ, and Mr. Adolph Hausch, the local baker of New Hyde Park.

Hebrew Center

Above: 1996 - Hebrew Temple. Lakeville Road
Left: On June 11, 1925, a founding organizational meeting of the Hebrew Center of New Hyde Park was held in a private home. In the early 1930's, this building was erected on Lakeville Road. Prior to construction of this center, High Holy Day Services were held in the Fire House on Miller's Lane.

As We Look Back . . .

HERMAN HOROWITZ

In the early 20's — New Hyde Park was truly farm country. Complete with a one track Toonerville Trolley that ran from Mineola to Jamaica and back — when it didn't go off the trolley track.

New Hyde Park had about 15 Jewish families and meetings and Sabbath services were held at the home of Aaron Holman, father of David Holman. They resided at the corner of South 3rd Street and Jericho Turnpike. High Holiday services were held at the Fire House on Millers Lane.

I am reminded of my Bar Mitzvah in the year 1926. It was held at our home in Garden City Park — and all those who attended — to make up the necessary Minyan — had to walk at least 3 miles each way. What a far cry from today.

It is only fitting that we mention the names of that first handful of families who worked so hard to get the Temple started: The Horowitz Family, The Hyman Family, The Sirlin Family, The Holman Family, The Rosenberg Family, The Friedman Family, The Farber Family, The Sheppard Family, The Rendell Family, The Perlman Family, The Seligson Family, The Bossert Family, The Cohen Family, The Altman Family, and The Plesser Family.

Our first building project was undertaken in the early 1930's at our present site. Later a building boom attracted hundreds of young Jewish couples who wanted to live and raise their children in one of the closest suburbs to the city.

We subsequently engaged the services of a full time Rabbi. It wasn't long before our congregation had its first very important discussion to be — or not to be — Orthodox or Conservative. With all the younger members rooting for it — we became a Conservative Temple — and the result of that decision included the appointment of our wonderful Rabbi — who has lead us so ably all these years.

Through the years our Congregation has had its ups and downs — financially and politically — but it has always come thru with "Flying Colors" — thanks to our Congregants and Rabbi Moseson.

It is now important for us to hold onto all the accomplishments of those who are no longer with us — and all the improvements made by the present membership. And under no circumstances are we to forget the ladies who are and have always been the power behind the men of the Temple.

To conclude — we should and must continue to pull together and give the Temple our whole hearted support. Our compensation will be the continuation of the Temple — for us — our children and their children.

And this is how it all began...

On June 11, 1925, a meeting of the Hebrew Center in New Hyde Park was called to order by temporary Chairman Max Rendel. A motion was made by Charles Witkin that nominations and elections of officers be held for a six month term of office.

The motion was carried and the following officers were elected:

Max Rendel — Chairman	Louis Levine — Treasurer
Aaron Holman — Vice-Chairman	Charles Altman — First Trustee
Harry Rosenberg — Secretary	Sam Nadler — Second Trustee

The next question was what to name this new organization. This question was tabled until the next meeting.

Brother Bossert and Brother Rosenberg were appointed as a committee to contact all Jewish residents of New Hyde Park and Garden City.

Brother Tigar was to do the same in Floral Park.

The next motion debated and passed was for all members to donate one dollar towards a treasury. Present were:

Max Horowitz	Martin Hipsham	Sam Sirlin
Charles Altman	Louis Levine	Nathan Hoffson
Morris Bossert	Sam Plesser	Charles Hyman
Hyman Cohen	Harry Rosenberg	Charles Witkin
Harry Cassmer	Max Rendel	Max Tigar
A. Korman	Abraham Silverberg	Sam Nadler
Aaron Holman	Paul Siden	Sam Levy

Treasurer's report:

$21.00	income
5.86	expenditures for letters and stamps
$15.14	balance in treasury

signed Max Rendel — Chairman
Harry Rosenberg — Secretary

At the next meeting, June 24, 1925, there were three new members:

Ralph Bossert Louis Kaplan Sam Seligson

And so it all began . . .

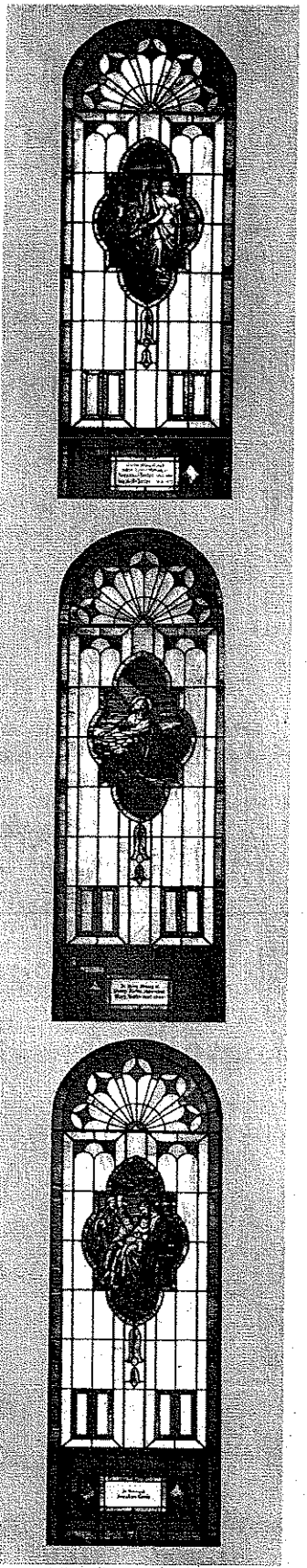
First Reformed Church

Memorial Windows

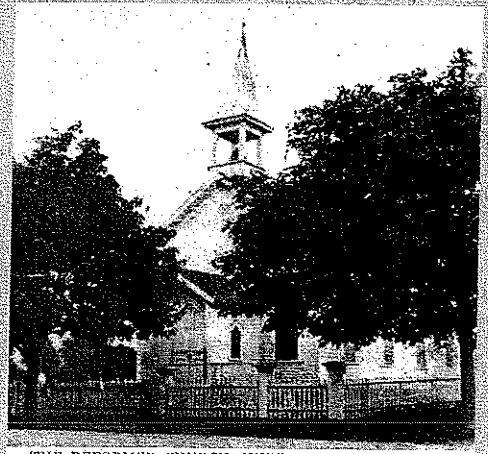
To be Dedicated Sunday, October First

at 7:30 P. M.

MEDALLION	INSCRIPTION
Announcement to the Shepherds	In memoriam William H. Hendrickson and Edward L. Frost by their friends
The Nativity	In loving memory of Lena Herkomer and Jacob F. Simon
The Boy Christ in the Temple	In loving memory of her parents by Ella B. Nelius
Christ Blessing the Children	In memory of Ingraham Family
The Good Shepherd	In loving memory of William Britton Schwarz by George B. Schwarz and Mary R. Schwarz
Christ in Gethsemine	In loving memory of Henry Kiefer
Easter Morning	To the Glory of God and in loving memory of Augustus Denton 1843-1900 Sarah M. Denton 1850-1927
The Ascension	Presented by the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Queens—1933
Knocking at the Door	No inscription
Come unto Me	In loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. B. Holman



Above: 1933 -First Reformed Church 50th Anniversary.
Right: First Reformed Church Memorial Windows, dedicated Sunday, October 1st, 1933.



THE REFORMED CHURCH, HYDE PARK, LONG ISLAND.

A Reunion at Hyde Park, L. I.

JUST outside the city limits at Hyde Park, L. I., there stands a little chapel, always known as the Hyde Park Sunday School. The history of this little church has been a peculiar one; and just what its influence has been only Eternity can reveal; but it is certain that here Jesus was born in the hearts of men and here men were strengthened in faith in such a way that they have become a power for the cause of Christ.

This little Sunday school was started about eighteen years ago with Mr. William Hendrickson as superintendent, through whose faithfulness and the co-operation of willing teachers it became one of the most flourishing Sunday schools in the county, and it became a well-known fact that God supplied Hyde Park abundantly and the chapel never knew what it was to have a debt. After ten years of Sunday school work a church was started and the people decided to have it the same denomination as the church of Queens, Dutch Reformed, as the people had helped us and sent us workers.

The first sermon preached in the chapel was on the following text: "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." At its tenth anniversary the same text was used by the same preacher, and now eight years have gone by and the people believe in the same text, for the same God has helped us, and as the little church will appear in its new coat of paint, new chairs, new carpet, new Bibles there was needed just a reunion of workers to add new zeal and new spirit to the laborers.

The reunion took place June 16, 1901. The church was decorated with flowers; above the pulpit, on an arch, was this motto, *"Hitherto hath the Lord helped us,"* and the word *Welcome* just below.

Very few of the workers of eighteen years ago remain to carry on the work, but invitations were sent out to all those who were identified with the work at any time, and it was indeed a red letter day in Christian experience to meet and greet fellow workers who are all striving for the same cause. There were more than 150 present at the morning service, and the student pastor of the church, David C. Weidner, of New Brunswick, was more than pleased to announce that the Rev. W. Hendrickson, of Newtown, the first superintendent, would preach the sermon; he touched the hearts of the people at once by introducing him as a father to him in Christian work, and the father of the flock gathered to meet him.

The text chosen was 1 Peter, 2:7. "Unto you, therefore, which believe, He is precious." Hearts were melted under the earnest words of the preacher, for all knew his whole life exemplified that Jesus was precious to him.

In the afternoon Sunday school was held, as usual, hymns were sung that were taken from the first hymn book used in the Sunday school. The day was made a decision day, the pastor spoke to the children how necessary it was that they should become Christians and decide while they were young. Cards having been distributed to the scholars by the teachers the week before were collected and seventy children desired to live Christian lives. During the past three months the children have been studying the Catechism and the pastor has been much encouraged with their progress.

The crowning part of the day was the evening service; no program, no set rules, nothing but the spirit of God working in the hearts of the people to whom He has become precious. The first speaker was William Hendrickson, who told of the first years of hard work full of trials to be sure, but through prayer and faith they laid hold of the promises of God, who never failed; all things worked together for good. His testimony was that here he was trained for his noble work of the ministry; here he learned what it was to trust God and live by faith, with his Bible his greatest treasure. Rev. Hewlett Smith spoke how here he was benefited and made strong to go out into the world.

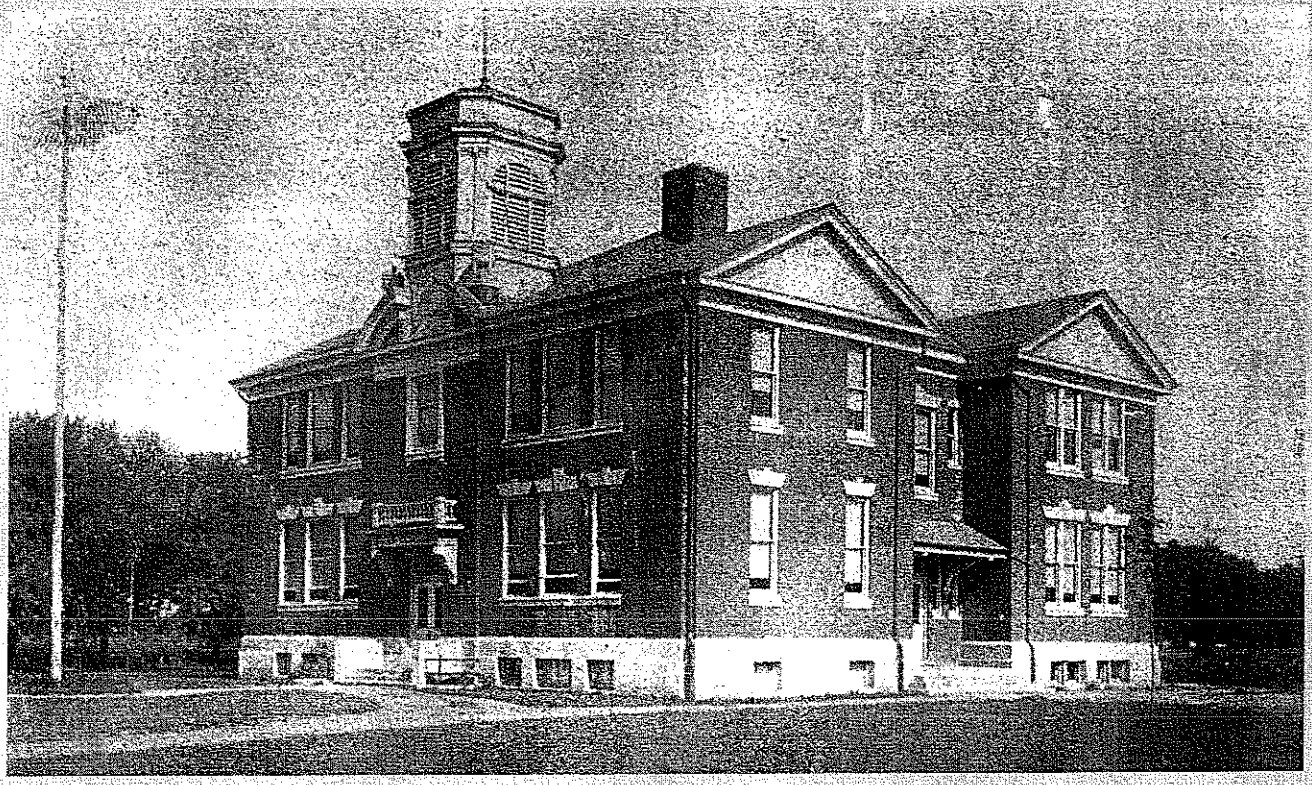
Joseph McCoun and Frank Baylis, of Floral Park, were the next speakers. They too testified how the work at Hyde Park prepared them for their work, and now both are superintendents in other Sunday schools.

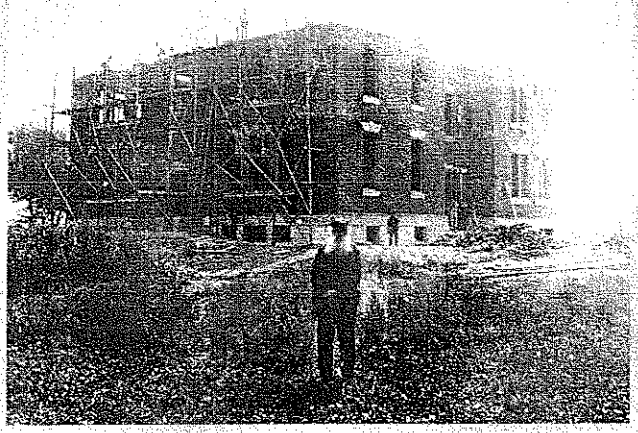
While the thoughts of many go out with those old workers and each in turn tries to imagine the good old times, there are many hearts who cling lovingly around the present and there is one central figure on whom all eyes turn, ready to hear his message, for if Mr. Hendrickson, the first superintendent, was a father of the work, then Mr. E. L. Frost, the second superintendent, has been a mother in faithfulness and love, for it was he who took all to himself, watched and tended all until every man, woman and child bless him and wish him God speed in all things. Surely the hearts of all people were made glad, and when they sang "After the Likeness of Jesus" with so much feeling, the spirit of God must have entered hearts and prepared them to sing "Open the door for the children," that all might help to gather the golden grain and shout the harvest home.

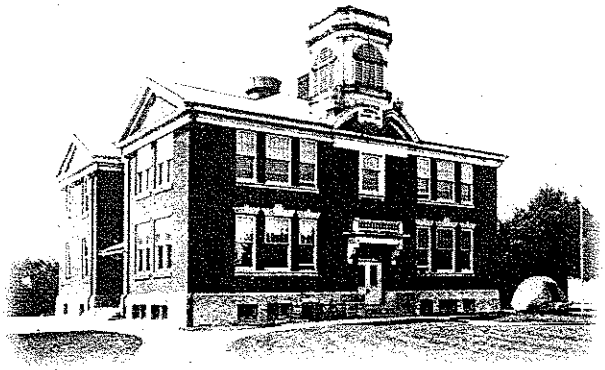
After the song "Harvest Home," the benediction was pronounced by Rev. Mr. Hendrickson. This day will be one long remembered. May it lead to more reunions and prepare hearts for the grand reunion in heaven.

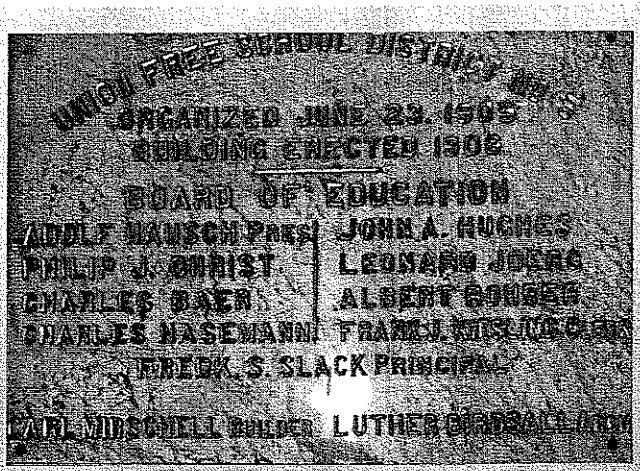
E. J. S.

July 3, 1901 - The Reformed Church, Church Reunion.
Photo: Harold E. Weidner









District 5 New Hyde Park School. 1420 Jericho Turnpike
Top: 1907 - School as built in 1906-1907 by Carl Mirschell, grandfather of George E. Christ.
Top Left: 1906 - School under construction, Joseph Kiesling (standing), Photo: Steve Limoncelli.
Top Right: 1936 - Converted to Municipal Building.
Bottom Left: 1907. Photo: Steve Limoncelli.
Bottom Right: 1906 - School Plaque.

22 - Schools

Early Schooling

In the last century, there were no schools in New Hyde Park. Therefore the parents had to send their children to neighboring villages for an education. Many times they had to be boarders and be with their families only on weekends. The following schools were attended by New Hyde Park students.

St. Boniface School Elmont: Benedict Hauck, Conrad Christ and J. Nicholas Krug.

Herricks Public School: The brothers Carl, William and Herman Baer.

New Hyde Park Public School on New Hyde Park Road: George and Mae Christ.

New Hyde Park School on Jericho Turnpike: Marcus Christ and David Holman.

Jamaica High School: Philip J. Christ and Eva Simon. Eva Simon taught in the New Hyde Park Public and Mineola schools.

Our Schools

by Florence Lisanti

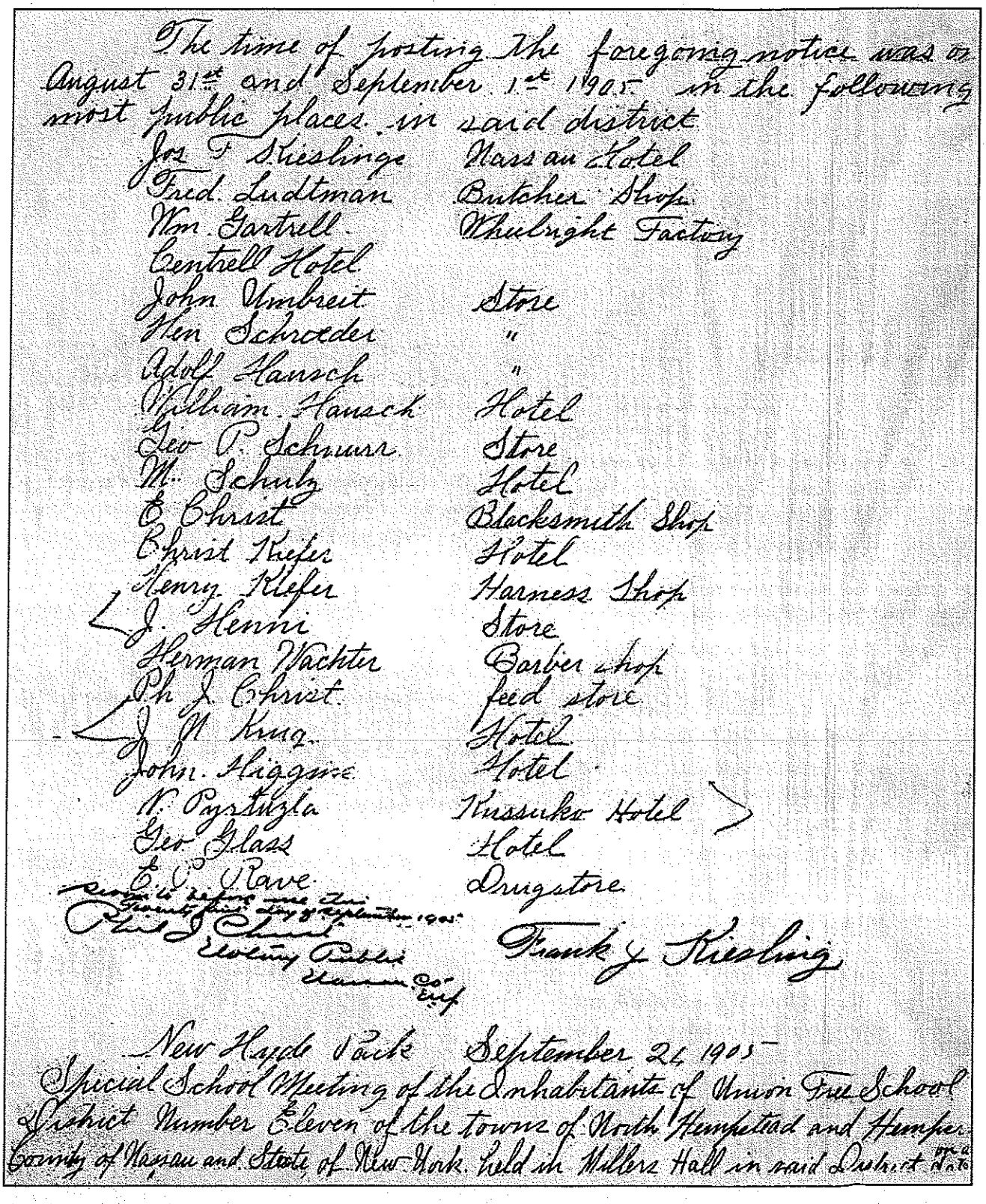
When towns and villages are settled, the first priority is given to providing adequate shelter for the families. Next, churches are built and then the schools. In the beginning of our school system, the pioneers of the community gave freely of their time and energy to establish good schools.

The first school in this area was built ~~around~~ in 1883 ~~1886~~. In 1894, it was enlarged and two more rooms were added to the front of the original building. Later on, the older part of this building was destroyed, but the newer portion still stands and was purchased and renovated by the New Hyde Park Baptist Church.

At a meeting on June 22, 1905, the voters approved the organization of Union Free School District No. 5. Nominations and elections were held for a 5-member Board of Education. Elected were: Philip J. Christ, Adolph Hausch, Charles Baer, John A. Hughes and Charles Haseman. Philip J. Miller was clerk.

The new Board of Education wisely began planning for the growing population, and in 1906 a new 8-room brick school building was erected on Jericho Turnpike and New Hyde Park Road. This building still stands and is now our Village Hall. When the building was finally dedicated in 1907, trustees Christ and Haseman had retired and had been replaced by Leonard Joerg and Albert Rohrer and so their names also appear on the Plaque in the hallway of the building.

1907 - Grade School.



The time of posting the foregoing notice was on August 31st and September 1st 1905 in the following most public places in said district

Jos F Kiesling	Nassau Hotel
Fred Ludtman	Butchers Shop
Wm Gartrell	Whalright Factory
Centrell Hotel	
John Umbreit	Store
Hen Schroeder	"
Adolf Hausch	"
Wilhelm Hausch	Hotel
Geo C Schnurr	Store
M Schulz	Hotel
C Christ	Blacksmith Shop
Christ Kiefer	Hotel
Henry Kiefer	Harness Shop
J Henni	Store
Herman Wachter	Barber shop
Ph J Christ	feed store
J M Krug	Hotel
John Higgins	Hotel
V Payntuzla	Nassauka Hotel
Geo Glass	Hotel
E C Rave	Drugstore

Frank J Kiesling

New Hyde Park September 2d 1905

Special School Meeting of the Inhabitants of Union Free School District Number Eleven of the towns of North Hempstead and Hempstead County of Nassau and State of New York. held in Millers Hall in said District on the

STATE OF NEW YORK,
:SS.
COUNTY OF NASSAU.

ALBERT ROHRER, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

That he at all times hereinafter mentioned, was and still is a resident of and Clerk of Union Free School District No. 5 of the Towns of North Hempstead and Hempstead, Nassau County, N. Y., and that on the 13th day of July, 1920, he then being upwards of the age of twenty-one years, posted notices of the annexed notice of a meeting of the inhabitants of said district No. 5, to be held on the 3rd day of August, 1920, in at least of the most public places within said District No. 5, i.e.,

Hotel of J. N. Krug.
L. I. R. R. Station.
Hardware store of Geo. Christ.
Post Office.
School House.
New Hyde Park Garage.
Mookolefski's Grocery and Butcher store.
Auto Supply store of J. Kaefer.
Liberty Dry Goods Store.
Barber Store,
Plumbing store of C. H. Gottsch.
Bakery store of A. Hausch.
Butcher Shop of Hessings.
Nichol's Barber Shop.
Auto Repair Store of A. Schneider.
General Store of H. Frerks.
Grocery store of Dettlefs.
Gillman's Ice Cream Store.
Ice Cream Store of Wm. Hausch.
Dry Goods Store of A. Altman.
Blacksmith shop of Wm. Gartrell.
Notion store of Wm. Reidel.
Drug Store of Mr. Nadels..
Shoemaker Shop.
Shoemaker Shop.
Dry Goods Store of A. Hollman.
Hotel of R. Kalweit.
Meat Market of F. Zelinski.
Paint Shop of Ben Hausch.

Sworn to before me this
15th day of September, Albert Rohrer

Notary Public, Nassau Co., N. Y.

1920 - Posting locations for school notices.

On April 22, 1924, at a special meeting of taxpayers, a Citizens Advisory Committee was appointed "to confer with the School Board and to formulate a plan to relieve the overcrowding of our present school and to provide school facilities for the future." The committee proposed that there be erected on the Garden City Park site (purchased in 1923) a temporary frame building having four classrooms. They further proposed that to temporarily relieve the crowding at the Jericho Turnpike School, a two room annex be attached to the present school buildings. This annex was later to be known as the Community Hall.

New Hyde Park PTA

by Florence Lisanti (1977)

A meeting to organize a Mother's Club was held at the school on Jericho Turnpike (now Village Hall) on Friday, March 16, 1923. Mrs. Philip Christ was elected President. A motion was made by Mrs. G. Christ to name the association, "Parent-Teachers Association." Motion carried. The minutes of this meeting written by C. J. Breuning also list the names of the charter members as follows:

Mr. G. Ruesch	Mr. H. Boeschen
Mrs. S. Diard	Mrs. W. Boure
Mrs. W. Hoffmann	Mrs. Barry
Mrs. C. Hoffmann	Mrs. A. Breuning
Mrs. P. Diard	Mrs. P. Christ
Mrs. W. Frerks	Mrs. J. Kloess
Mrs. G. Christ	Miss R. Clark
Mrs. Detleff	Miss R. Frontero
Mrs. Becker	Miss H. Buckley
Mrs. Macdonald	Mr. H. Cross
Mrs. Gottsch	Mr. A. Richardson
Mrs. J. Kiefer	Mrs. J. C. Wagner, Jr.

On September 7, 1927, the New Hyde Park Road School was opened. This year, 1977, the PTA program is fostering better communication among parents, teachers and administrators. The PTA has assisted in Back to School Nights, kindergarten registration, class trips and book fairs. Funds raised are used to purchase items to benefit all children. For example: pictures and frames for art appreciation, stand for dictionary, films and entertainment for the children's enjoyment, play equipment for each class to be used during lunch period. PTA actively supports legislation to insure the welfare of children and youth and is now embarking on a National program to decrease violence on TV.

The taxpayers voted to acquire a new school site in New Hyde Park. Six acres bounded by New Hyde Park Road, Belmont Avenue, Terrace Boulevard and Park Avenue were purchased. Late in 1925, at a special meeting, money was voted to erect a new school on the property purchased. This school was to have 20 classrooms, an auditorium to accommodate nine hundred and a spacious gymnasium. It was also voted that a new school with eight classrooms be erected at Garden City Park. Ground was broken for both buildings in January of 1926.

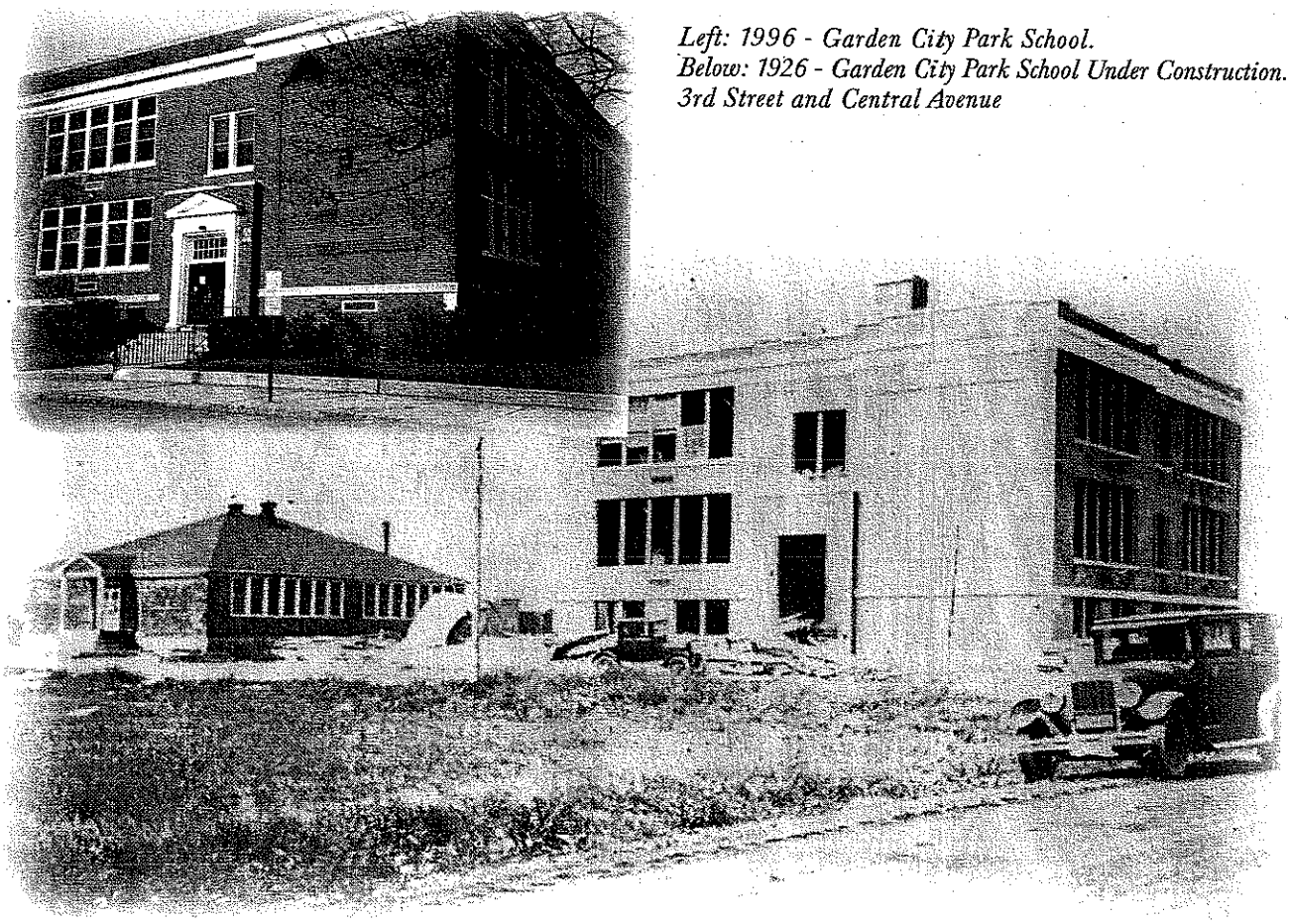
In 1928, New Hyde Park joined with Elmont, Franklin Square, and Floral Park in the establishment of Central High School District No. 2. In September 1930, Sewanhaka High School was opened. Following the close of World War II in 1945, the population of Nassau County increased significantly. Sewanhaka facilities were overcrowded. On June 12, 1954, one of the largest bond issues ever proposed for school construction in the State of New York was passed, and construction began for four junior-senior high schools (Elmont, Floral Park, Franklin Square, New Hyde Park), a junior high school on Hempstead Turnpike and an addition to Sewanhaka High School.

Our New Hyde Park-Garden City Park elementary school district now has four schools: Road School, Garden City Park, Hillside Grade and Manor Oaks-William R. Bowie. Only the Road School is in the Incorporated Village of New Hyde Park.

Reminiscences of New Hyde Park

by Marie Farina Brown

I was born in New Hyde Park and grew up on South 5th Street across from the Holy Spirit School. My family lived in New Hyde Park since 1914 and my father was a truck farmer. Our farm ran from



Left: 1996 - Garden City Park School.
Below: 1926 - Garden City Park School Under Construction.
3rd Street and Central Avenue

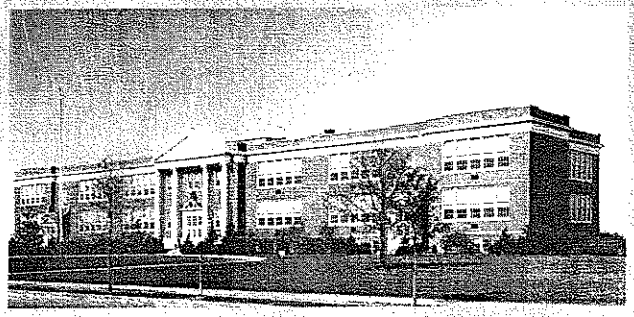
Lakeville Road to Cherry Lane and from Jericho Turnpike to Hillside Ave. We only rented, therefore when the property was sold during the 1920s, we moved the farm to North New Hyde Park. In 1922 my family moved to South 5th Street and I was born there in 1930. I had 3 sisters: Catherine, Theresa, and Betty and one brother Anthony. We all received a catholic education at Holy Spirit. The Dominican nuns had a convent there and ran an orphanage where Sister Cosca was in charge. Not all the children were orphaned, some of them came from broken homes or destitute families and found with the sisters security and an orderly life. Many of the children in the school came from quite distant surrounding areas and as they could not go home for lunch, the nuns provided them with a hot meal for 15 cents.

When I went to school, the building had four classrooms and a stage with folding walls that became an auditorium for graduation and other ceremonies. There was a very high enrollment by the time I entered school, therefore the stage was eliminated and the space used for two more single grade classrooms. My first and second grades I attended in the summerhouse of the convent. My teacher at that time was Sister Hortencia.

Looking back, first grade was very important to me, because there was a boy in school by the name of Frederick Brown and little did I know that 18 years later I would marry him. He also was born in New Hyde Park and the Browns were an old established family. The High School I attended was Sewanhaka. My brother Anthony became a lawyer and was for several years village attorney. My husband and I moved to South 18th Street and we have 6 children. Three of them still live in New Hyde Park.

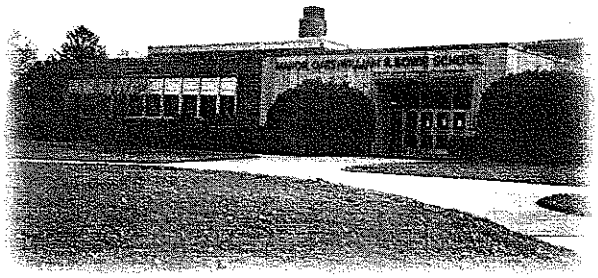
Holy Spirit School (new building).
6th Street

Hillside Grade School.
West Maple Drive

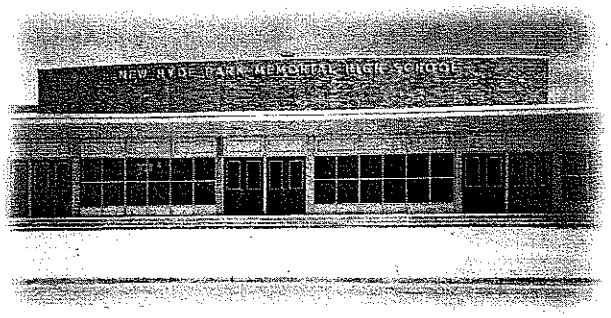


New Hyde Park Road School.

Holy Spirit School Building and Pupils.
South 6th Street
Photo: Lois Miller Daly



Manor Oaks - William R. Bowie School.
Hillside Avenue



Memorial High School.
Leonard Boulevard

Sewanhaka High School.
Tulip Avenue

Some School Incidents

Memories by George E. Christ

One of the strangest occurrences in New Hyde Park was the burning of a cross by the K.K.K. Yes there was a K.K.K. but their wrath was not directed against Blacks, there weren't any, or against Jews, they were an integrated part of the Community. The K.K.K. opposed the school board. For evening services at the First Reformed Church, they put on their robes and entered the church in formation, but removed the hoods when taking their places in the pews. I was still a child at that time and never before had I seen or heard of the K.K.K. and was so startled that to this day the event is vivid in my memory. To show their displeasure with the school board, at one time they burned a cross in the field in front of the school building. Seems some men didn't like the building of the new school and as they were out-voted at the meetings, they showed their protest in a dramatic way. This is the only activity of the K.K.K. I know about.

An event which had the children and especially their parents quite disturbed, occurred while the new school on New Hyde Park Road was being built. The foreman of the crew was Mr. Nelius, and he was the one who hired a night watchman to guard against vandalism. As it was cold and damp, salamanders (charcoal fueled stoves) were brought in to dry out the walls. Apparently the watch man wanted to warm up and stayed in one of the enclosed rooms. Maybe he fell asleep, because due to the fumes the next morning he was found dead. We children were taught the serious lesson about ventilation.

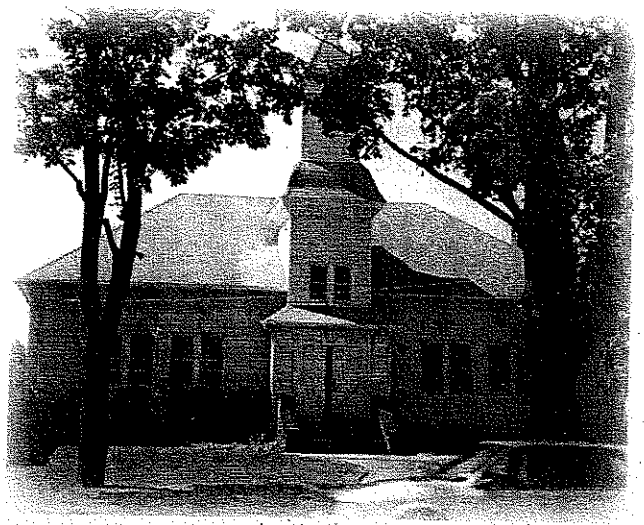
In my first High School year, I had to commute to Hempstead so I was looking forward to the building of Sewanhaka, as it would be closer to home. In 1929, we had an unusually strong storm and someone entered my fathers store and yelled, "the high school is being demolished by the wind." My father and I drove to Covert Avenue and the sight of the steel work collapsing is another event imprinted in my memory.

It is sad to note, that a major scandal involved members of the Sewanhaka school board and the principal. During the building of the school, there were some financial irregularities, some bribe taking, and after the investigation one person went to jail and the others, including the principal A.M. Croop, resigned in 1931. Also members of the school board were not reelected. Mr. C. Cooper was appointed acting principal, until in 1932 the job went to Dr. Alva T. Stanforth.

School Custodian

Frank Ripple and his wife came to New Hyde Park at the turn of the century, and in 1907 he applied and received the job as custodian in the new school of District 5 on Jericho Turnpike. With the job came living quarters which were located at the old school, now part of the Baptist Church on New Hyde Park Road. For the twenty years that Frank was the custodian of the school, the many children who attended, knew him as a gentle kind person and called him: "Pop Ripple."

Frank Ripple had 6 children, and one of his daughters Mrs. Marion Ripple Kessler supplied me with their names: Else Ripple Krause, Anne Ripple Wachter, Lillian Ripple Post, Frank Ripple, Jr., and Bessie Ripple Manning. On almost all the old photos of the Fire Department, one can find the face and name of Frank Ripple.



Frank Ripple's residence (1907-1927). Old School on New Hyde Park Road

NEW HYDE PARK SCHOOL GRADUATION - JUNE 1929

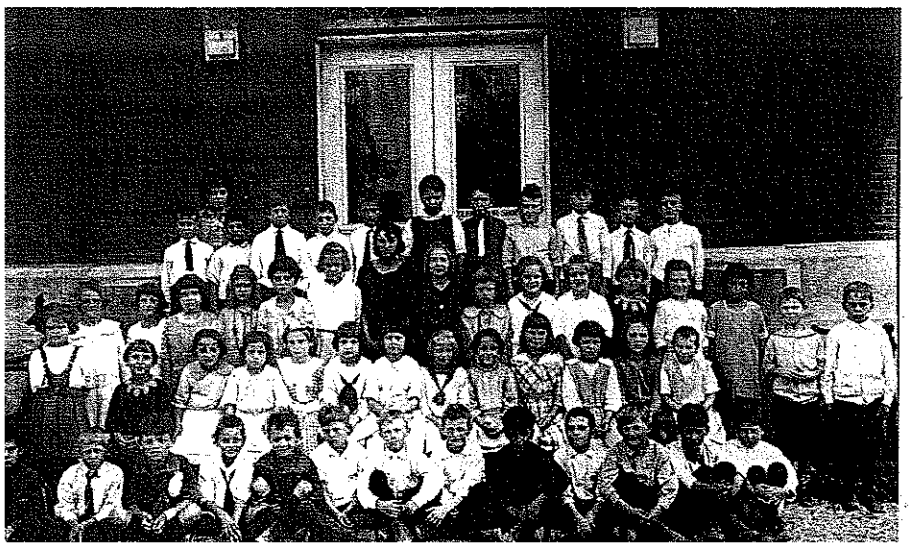
1929 - New Hyde Park School Graduation.
Left To Right
1st Row: Mary Yazijian, unknown, unknown, unknown, Emma McDonald, Elsie Barkentine, Jennie Hyman, Principal Dubios, Elizabeth Rich, Natalie Plesser, unknown, unknown, unknown, Amelia Hoffmann.
2nd Row: Marvin Levi, Walter Kiesling, Martha Martin, Viola Remsem, unknown, unknown, Claire Sehringer, Thelma Kouwenhoven, Charles Lessmann, George E. Christ, Donald Gottsch, John Bornholdt.
3rd Row: Roy Limpitlaw, Charles Savage, Charles Hyman, Harry Bishop, Joseph Kiesling, John Hausch, Arthur Weber, Louis Sirlin, Richard Dill, Louis Gelman.

2ND MIDDLE UNKNOWN
MARY LEONESKI

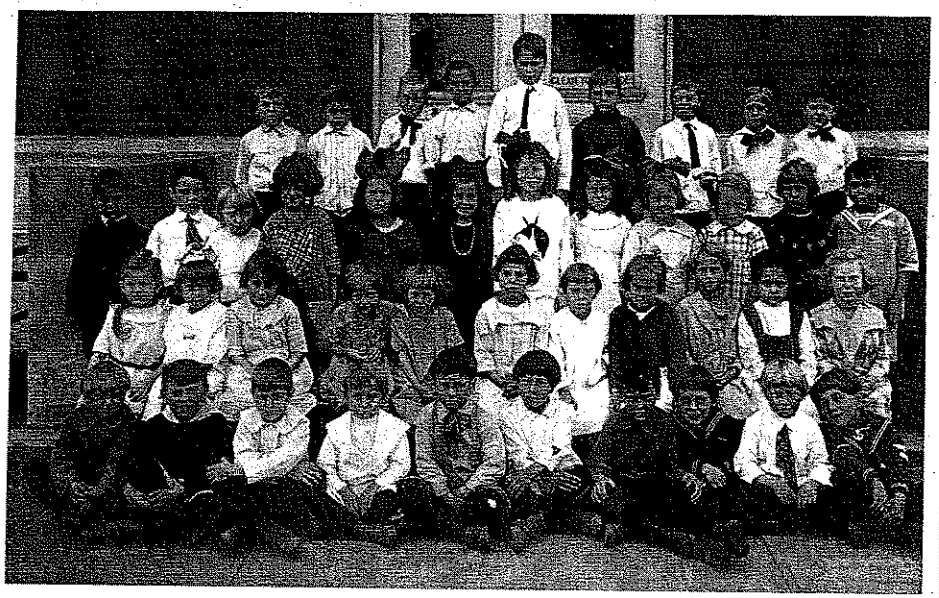
MARY ERICSON
↑
—YAZIJIAN
354-5197

Left to Right
1st Row: unknown, unknown, unknown, Frieda Altman, unknown, unknown, unknown.
2nd Row: unknown, unknown, John Boeschen, unknown, unknown, Whitey Remsen, unknown, unknown, unknown.
3rd Row: unknown, unknown, George Klien, George Simon, 5 unknown.

1923-1924, 8th grade.
Left to Right
1st Row: 9 unknown, Gesular Kun, unknown.
2nd Row: unknown, Lawrence Scott, 4 unknown, Thelma Kiesling, Milcent McDonald, unknown, unknown, unknown.
3rd Row: unknown, Alex Moculeski, Sonny Cleveland, unknown, unknown, George Becker.



Left to Right
1st Row: unknown, unknown, Brewster Gottsch, Norman Boeschen, Donald Gottsch, George Rich, Albert Boardman, 6 unknown.
2nd Row: all unknown.
3rd Row: all unknown, extreme right next to last - Donald Bowie.
4th Row: all unknown, extreme right next to last - John Hausch.

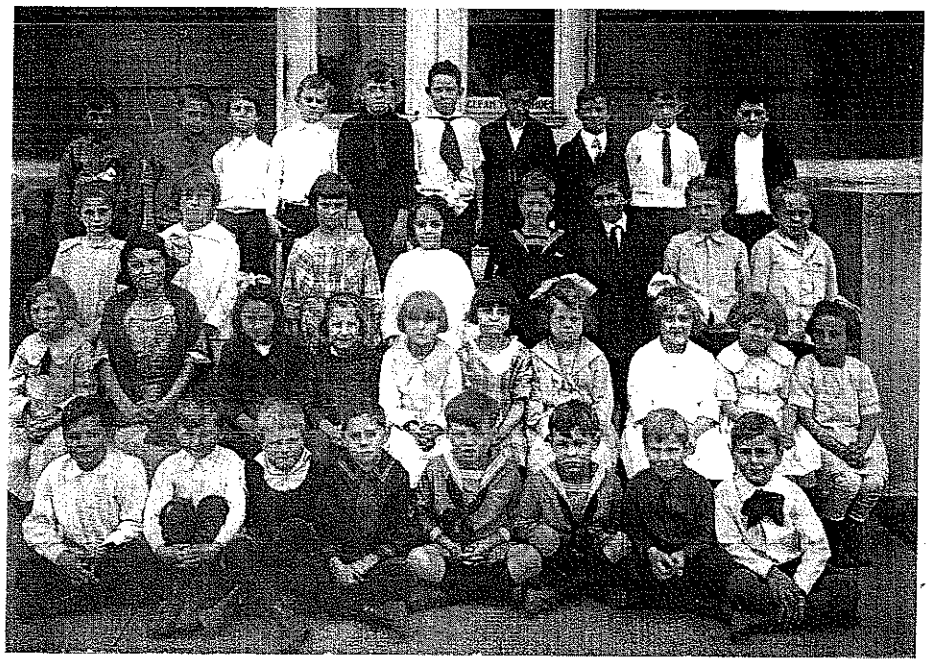


Left to Right
1st Row: unknown, George E. Christ, 4 unknown, Donald Bowie, unknown, unknown, Louis Gellman.
2nd Row: Emma McDonld, 5 unknown, Nellie Boardman, unknown, unknown, unknown, Rita Schnieder.
3rd Row: 11 unknown, Robert Pflug
4th Row: 8 unknown, Joseph Kiesling, Harry Bishop.

Left to Right
1st Row: unknown, unknown, Thelma Kiesling, 4 unknown.
2nd Row: 8 unknown, Frank Farber.
3rd Row: unknown, Edwar Muller, Carlton Baer, 5 unknown.

Left to Right
1st Row: George E. Christ, unknown, Doris Wagoner, unknown, Frieda Altman, Amelia Hoffmann, Elizabeth Rich, unknown.
2nd Row: Robert Pflug, Wolly Freks, Norman Boechen, Donald Gottsch, Brewster Gottsch, Emma McDonal, Helen Kiefer, 5 unknown.
3rd Row: 4 unknown, Frank Volgher, unknown, Jim Pepe, Albert Boardman, John Hausch, James Decola, unknown.

Left to Right
1st Row: all unknown.
2nd Row: 4 unknown, Marie Kiesling, Marie Simon, Katherine Kiefer, Florence Rosenberg, Bethel Christ.
3rd Row: all unknown.
4th Row: Bruce Bowie, unknown, unknown, John Kiefer, all others unknown.

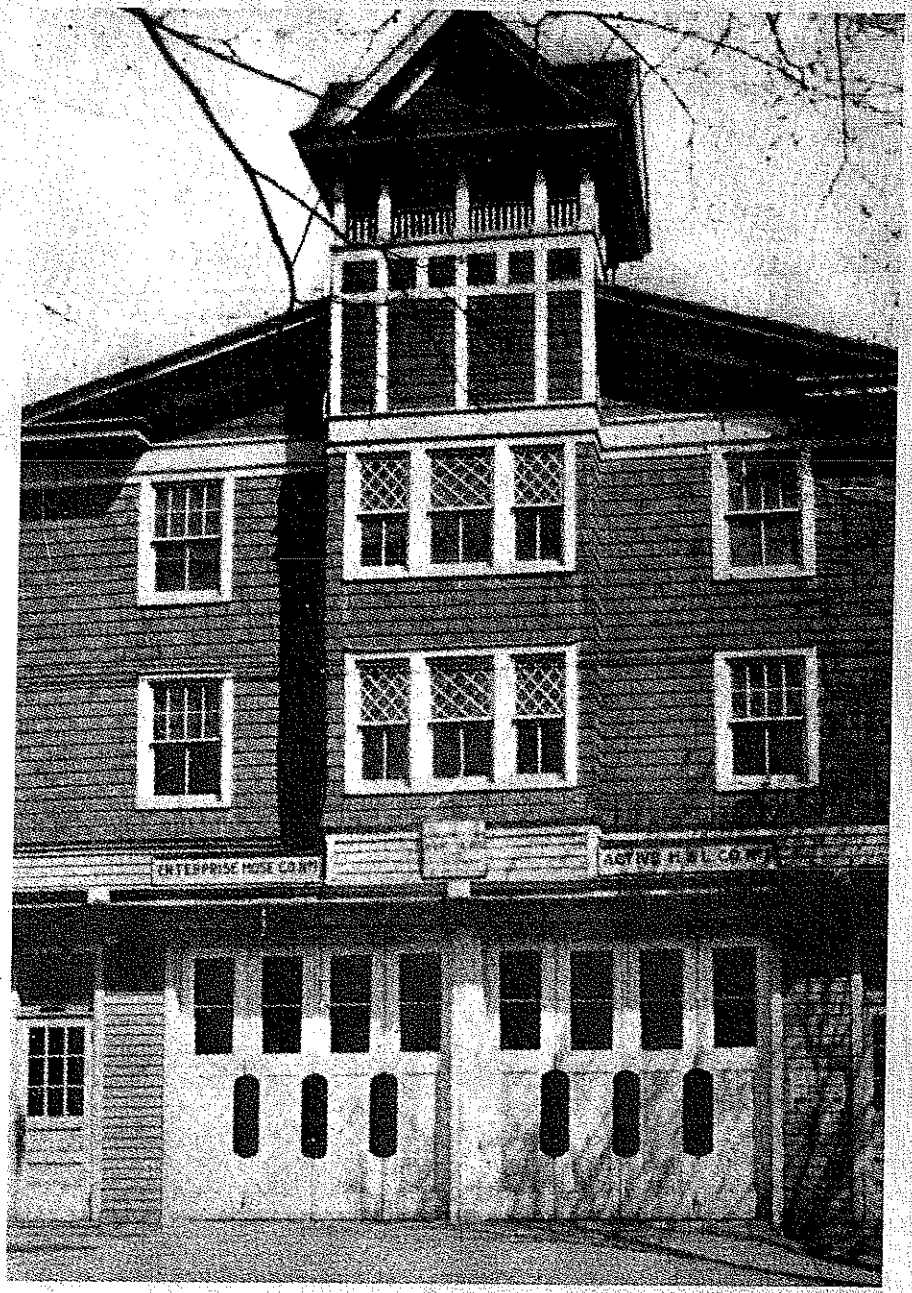


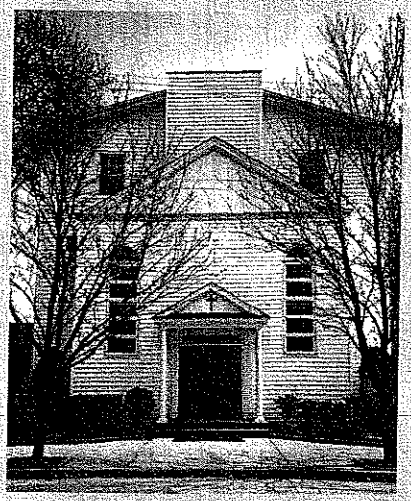
1922
Left to Right
1st Row: James Decola, unknown, unknown, unknown, Brewster Gottsch, Donald Gottsch, Donald Bowie, Norman Boeschen.
2nd Row: unknown, unknown, unknown, Amelia Hoffmann, 3 unknown, Doris Wagoner, Elizabeth Rich, Freida Altman
3rd Row: Helen Kiefer, 6 unknown, George Rich, unknown.
4th Row: Jim Pepe, unknown, John Hausch, unknown, Harace Boardman, 5 unknown.

Left to Right
1st Row: unknown unknown, Mildred Hoffmann, unknown, Ella Klien, unknown, unknown.
2nd Row: unknown, Roy Johnson, William Bowie, Lily White, Loretta Hausch, unknown, Wilhelmina Richter, unknown, Harry Friedman.
3rd Row: Whitey Remsen, unknown, Jake Simon, unknown, Arthur Baer, unknown, James Pepe, unknown.

June 1923 - Graduation, Union Free School District #5. 1st Row: Paul Ruesch, Lily White, Ella Klein, Loretta Hausch, Mildred Hoffmann, Wilhelmina Richter, Jake Farber. 2nd Row: William Bowie, Laslow Kun, Harry Friedman, Principal Horace Cross, Jacob Simon, unknown, Roy Johnson.

June 1925 - Graduation, Union Free School District #5, Old Fire House on Millers Lane. 1st Row: Robert Willis, Frank Farber. 2nd Row: Gizella Kun, Edna, Ruth Ruesch, Bruce Bowie, Mae Limpitlaw, unknown, Bethel Christ. 3rd Row: unknown, Edward Chrnowski, unknown, Carlton Baer, unknown, Ruth Weidner, unknown, Caroline Barker, Kathleen Kiefer. 4th Row: John Moculeski, unknown, Principal Horace Cross, Raymond Schneider, Walter Barker.



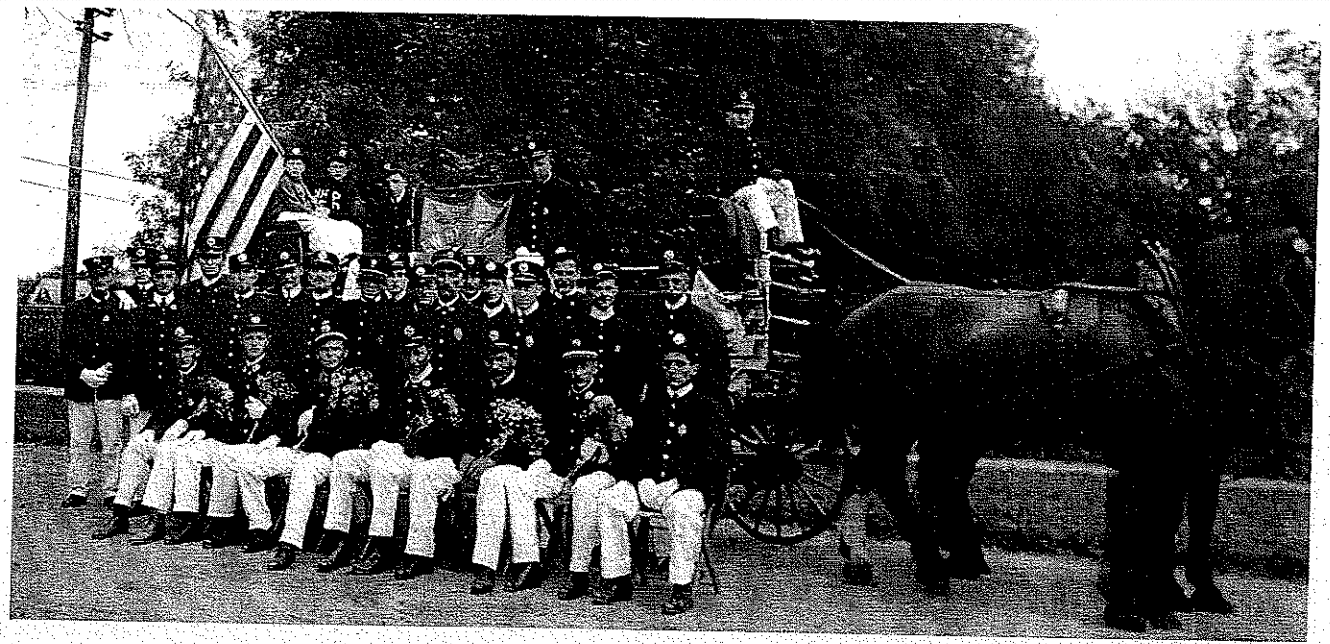


Above:: Fire House at 14 Miller's Lane (rebuilt)
Top Right: Original firehouse.
Bottom Right: Reconstructed into the Bethany Bible Church (1996).

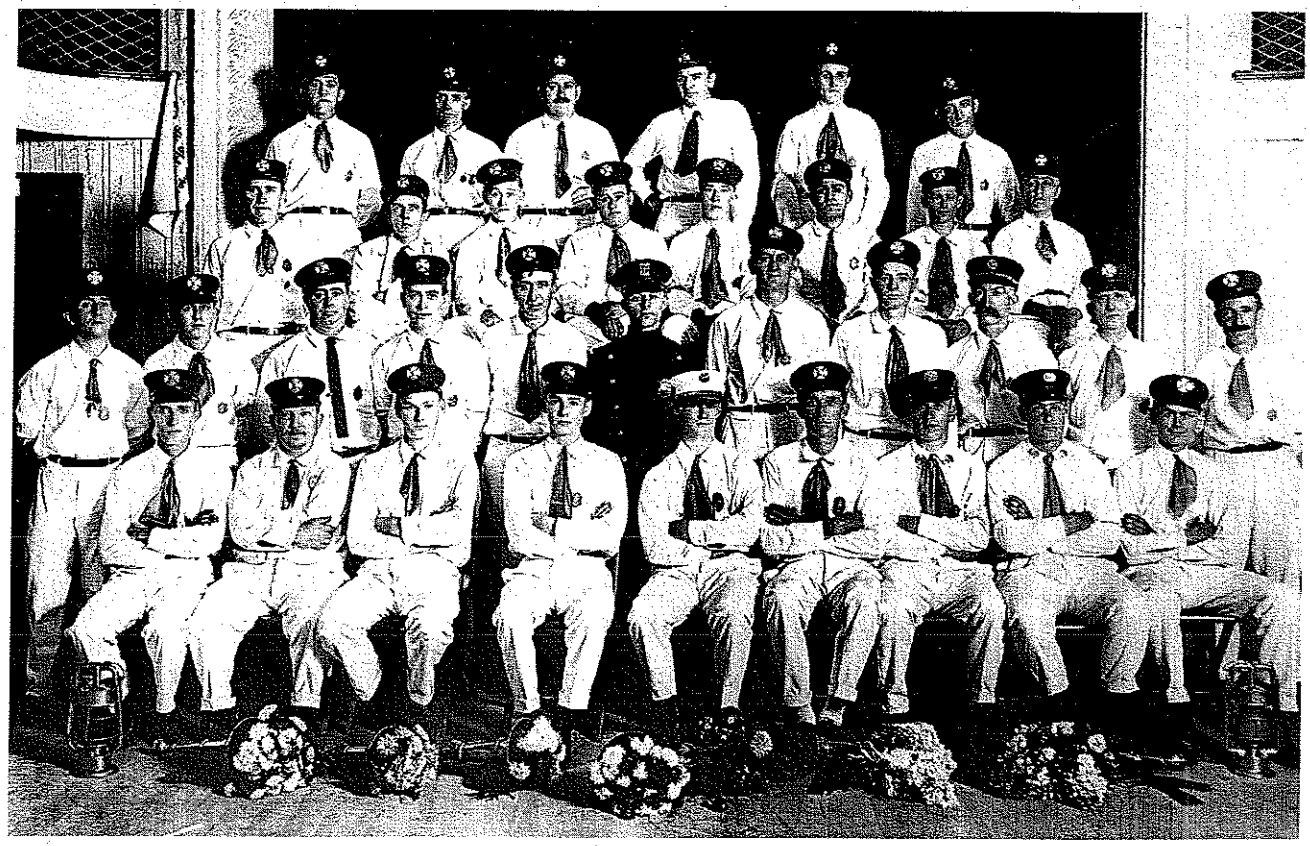
23 - Fire Department

New Hyde Park Firemen Memorial at the Main Fire House

Albert Rohrer	
Frank Bauman	
William Kiefer Sr.	1916
John Radetsky	1919
William Gartrell Sr.	1926
Francis Garvey	1926
Frank Filasky	1928
Frank Cramer	1930
Philip J. Christ	1933
Frank Kowalski	1934
Adam Petry	1935
Frederick Schneider	1937
Leonard Joerg	1937
Robert Kalweit	1939
Philip J. Miller	1939
William Raynor	1939
J. N. Reuter	1940
Charles Bennenger	1940
John Schneider	1940
Peter Seitz	1941
Peter Godesky	1941
Fredrick Brown	1941
Harry Paulsen	1941
John B. Brezisky	1944
Frank Franklin	1945
Charles Wilkin	1945
Julius Altman	1946
John Flynn	1946
Charles Leight	1946
George Baer	1947
J. William Hoffmann	1947
George E. Becker	1948
Charles Schick	1949

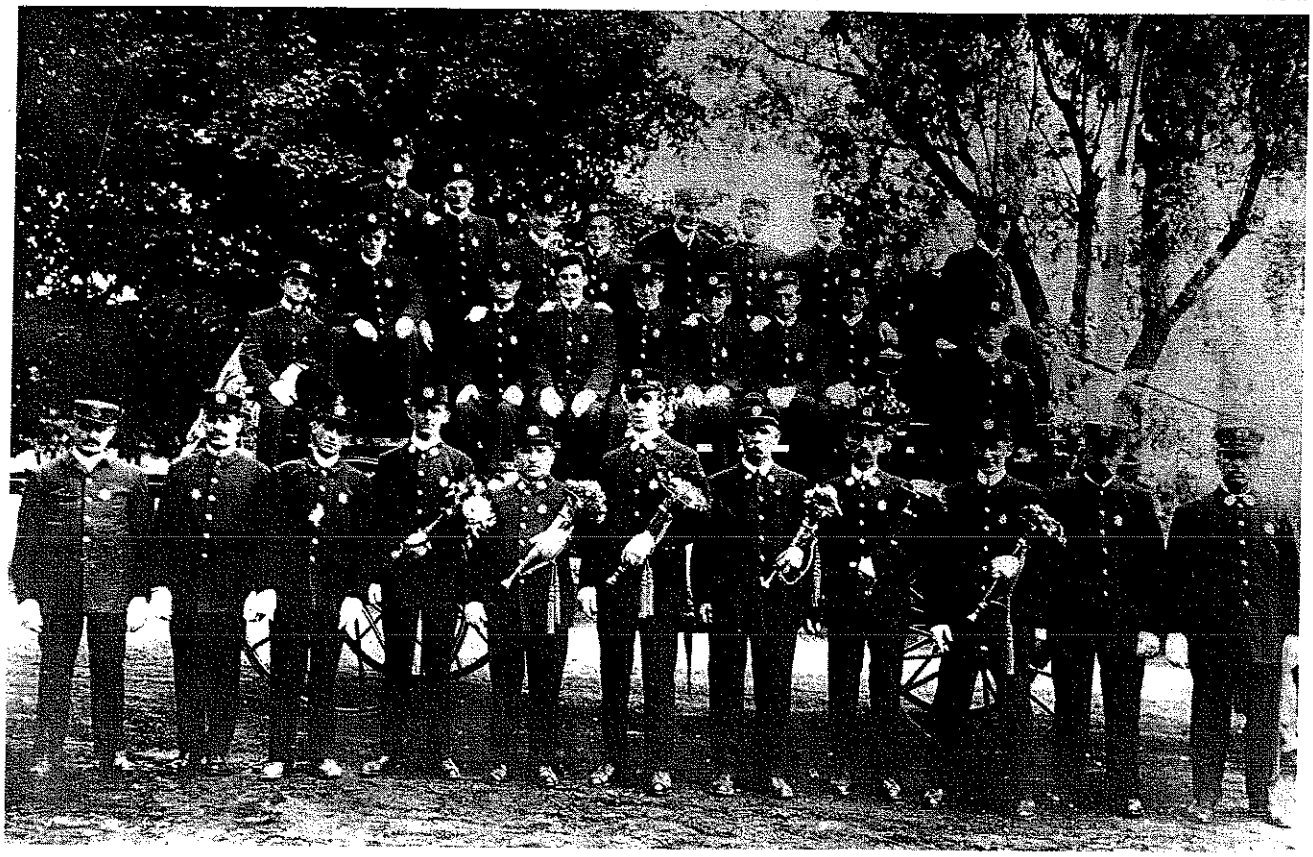


New Hyde Park Fire Department with a team of horses. Photo: Marion Ripple Kessler



John Miller (middle with white hat), Chief of the New Hyde Park Fire Department. William A. Hausch (dark uniform) from the Nassau County police. Photo: Lois Miller Daly

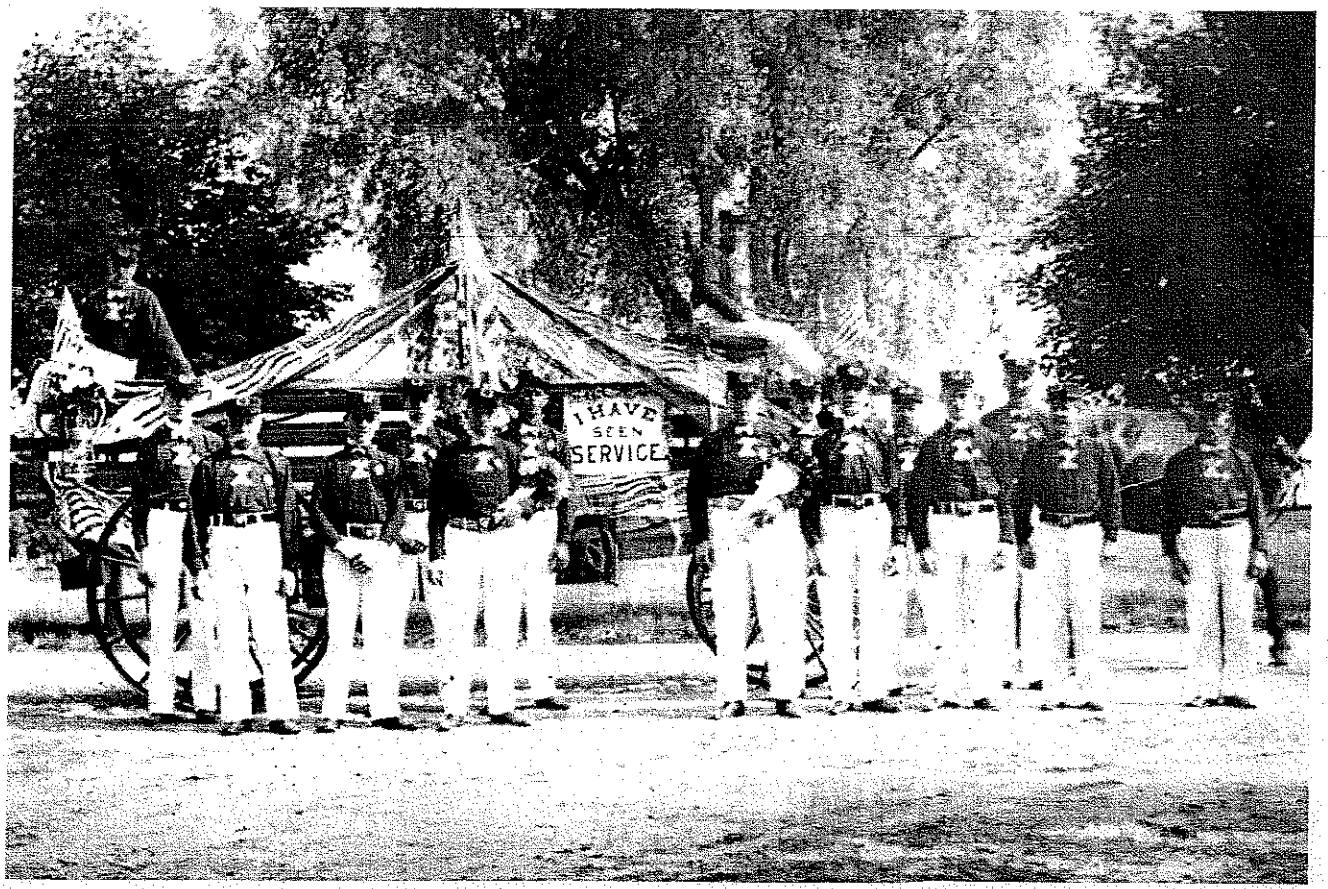
Gustave Buscher	1949
P. J. McCaffery	1950
Edward Hudson	1950
Edward Danowski	1951
William Sinski	1951
Samuel Friedman	1951
Louis Klein	1952
H. Farrell	1953
Edward Chrzanowski	1954
Stanley Nowakowski	1954
Calvin V. Zier	1954
Thomas Gruenfelder	1955
F. Guzobka	1955
Henry Kuhlmann	1955
Henry Thiessen	1956
James Lahey	1957
Frank Ripple	1957
F. Cloke	1957
Walter Stawecki	1957
Stanley Remsen	1958
Joseph Conrad	1958
Adam Richert Sr.	1959
William Nimmo	1959
Curt Pickrodt	1960
Ralph Kun	1960
J. Zupka	1960
J. T. Ballentine	1960
Carl Sehlinger	1960
Frank Wiedeman	1961
Alex Pelkowski	1961
H. Barkentine	1961
A. Kowalski Sr.	1961
Joseph Nacewicz	1961
James Siciliano	1962
Michael Bonsera	1962
Harold Nichols	1963
Clifford Krug	1963
John C. Kiefer	1963
Leopold Pflug	1963
George E. Christ Sr.	1963
John Kollmer	1964
Leo Dorant	1964
Hanfort Barlow	1964
M. Galasieski	1965
George Hees	1966
William Purcell	1966
John Hausch	1966
H. Naughton	1966
Walter Kiesling Sr.	1966
Isadore Rudolph	1966
William Allwang	1966
H. Snyder	1966
William Sauve	1967
S. Zysk	1967
Anthony Farina	1968
James Pepe	1969
Alfred Kellett	1969
Alfred Doerrer	1969
Edward Nacewicz	1970
John Nacewicz	1970
Charles Hoffmann	1970
Karl Bierack	1970
Michall Demillio	1970
William Rauth Jr.	1970
David Holman	1970
Wiliam Ehlers	1970
Arthur Brandow	1970
Benjamin Rudolph	1971
Frank Krauss	1971
Robert Farber	1971
Henry Pieper	1971
Frank Pelkowski	1971
Russell Hladky	1971
Sidney Benjamin	1971
George Tompkins	1972



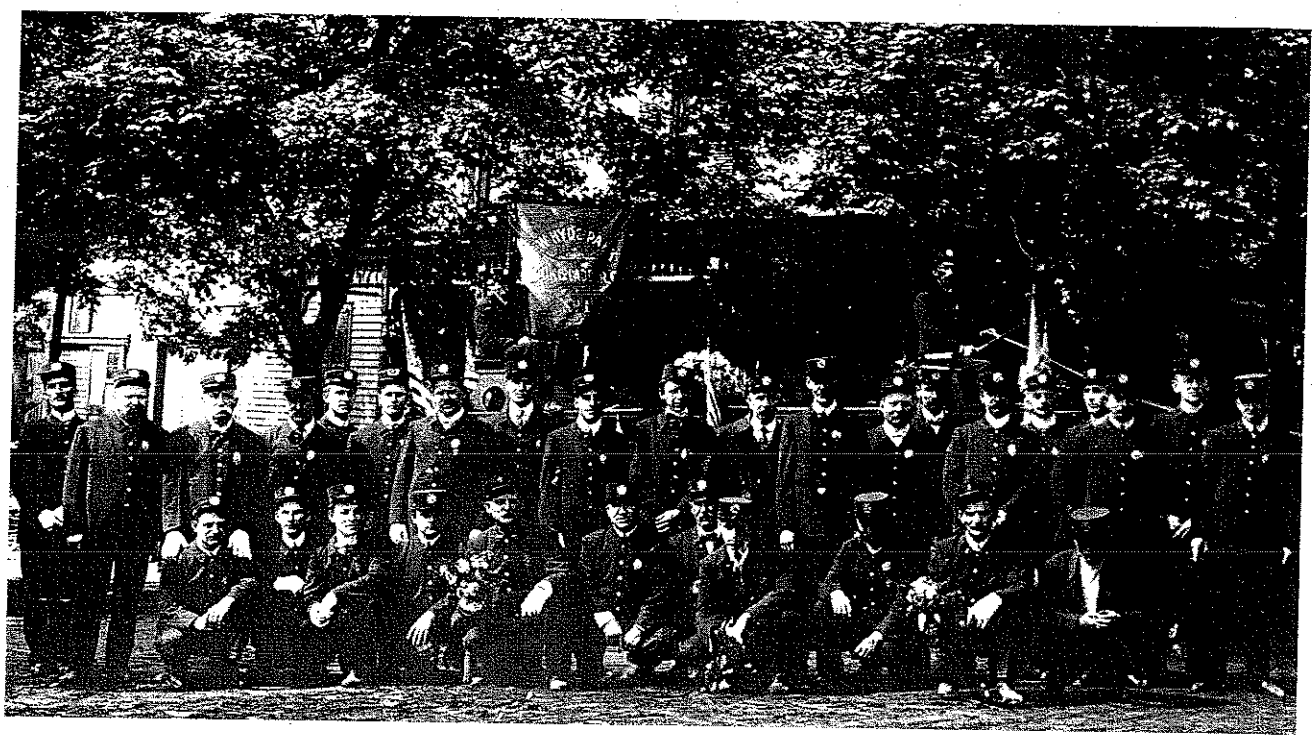
Stanley Remsen (the short person in the middle) in the good old days of the horse and buggy. He was the First Chief. Frank Ripple is the fourth person from the right. Photo: Marion Ripple Kessler

Edward O'Brien	1972
Walter Reef	1972
Thomas Rooney	1972
William Hall	1972
Ralph Hilz	1973
Edward Grygo	1973
William Schaublin	1973
Carl Jablonski	1973
Harry Friedman	1973
Ivan Deutsch	1974
Emanuel Leder	1974
Richard Roberts	1974
George Cozart	1974
William Mehlrose	1974
Otto Schaublin	1975
Fred Eisele	1975
Frank Cavanagh	1975
Benard Kraus	1975
Chester Lopinski	1975
Robert Alger	1975
George Neumann	1975
Edwin Crygier	1976
Joseph Kammerer	1976
Michael Barchuk	1976
Fred Bargetzi	1977
August Krage	1977
William Brown	1977
John Slawechi	1978
Otto Klein	1978
Joseph Caravella	1978
William Ambacher	1978
Hugo Krant	1978
James Finnegan	1978
Charles Adams	1979
Chaurecey Flower	1979
William van Zandt	1979
Alfred Reidel	1979
Asa Masson	1979
Jacob Oelberger	1980
George Schlich	1980
Thomas Kopel	1980
Errol Robinson	1980
John Stenicha	1980
Edward Murrey	1980
John Cutter	1981
Arthur Elbert	1981
John Vienski	1981
Milton Doran	1981
Harold McCord	1981
Thomas Clorciari	1981
William Ambarher Jr.	1982
Joseph Gallo	1982
Fred Lobe	1982
Henry Meylan	1982
Richard Nitti	1982
Robert Zulkofske	1982
William Nacewicz	1982
Theodore Hatch	1982
Robert Ryan	1983
John Varol	1983
Patrick Martorond	1983
Anthony Lasdari	1984
Charles Lynch	1984
Herman Becker	1984
Joseph Danowski	1984
William Wallace	1984
Leonard Kowleski	1984
Benedick Hauck	1984
Nicholas Sasiadek	1984
Henry Betz	1985
Fred Schacherbauer	1985
William J. Athenas	1986
Thomas Reifenheiser	1986
Robert Frost	1986
Frank Holzapfel	1986

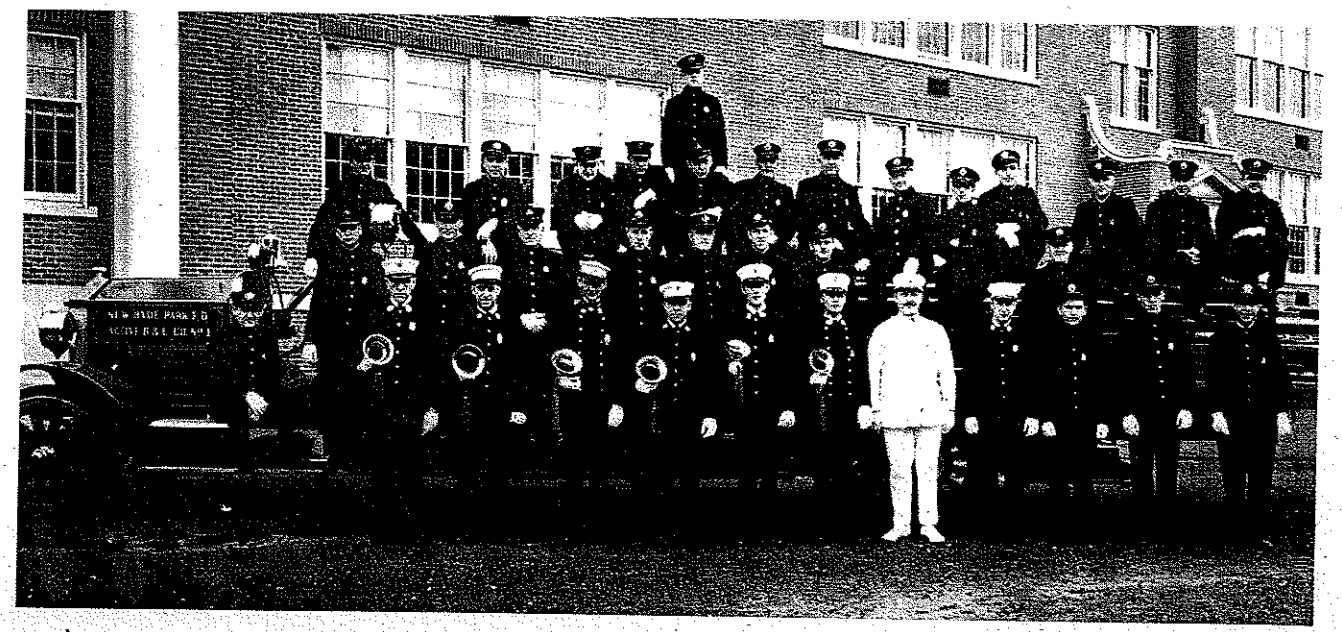
Edward Fosdick	1986
John Mglia	1986
Stephen Fox	1987
David Hanraham	1987
Joseph Hauck	1987
Theodore Hirschfeld	1987
Fred Ringhofer	1987
Joseph Rubano	1987
Otto Tietjen	1987
John A. Wulforst	1987
Charles Zimmer	1987
Robert Brown	1988
Harold Baer	1989
Robert Kleopfer	1988
John J. Krug	1988
George McCallum	1988
Stanley Nacewicz	1988
George Schleghter	1988
Paul Surmmagerwicz	1988
Clement Hauck	1989
Frank Pelkowski	1989
Harold Sands	1989
Edward Striegel	1989
Robert Charley	1980
Thomas Boyd	1990
Herbert Eighler	1990
Martin McCormack	1990
John Conway	1990
Roman Radziski	1990
Frank Paradise	1990
Alex Moculeski	1990
Edward Rubel	1990
Milo McNeil	1991
Fred Greil	1991
Herman Sluttgan	1991
Adolph Meyer	1991
John Benes	1991
Milton Maxwell	1991
Joseph Olkuski	1991
Victor Sowinski	1992
John Gorski	1992
Thomas Serra	1992
James O'Donnel	1993
Walter Berry	1993
John Dellaporto	1994
Alfonse Rubano	1994



1890 - New Hyde Park First Fire Protection Brigade: Frank Miller, Albert Rohrer, Leonard Joerg, P. J. Miller, Fred Simon, Chris Gottsch, George Schnurr, Joseph Kiesling, Conrad Christ, Herman Schultz, George Reckenbeil, Charles Baer, Frank Ripple, William Baer, Henry Kiefer, Dr. Ed Rauve, Nicholas Reuter, P. J. Christ, Stanley Remsen, Myron Hendrickson.



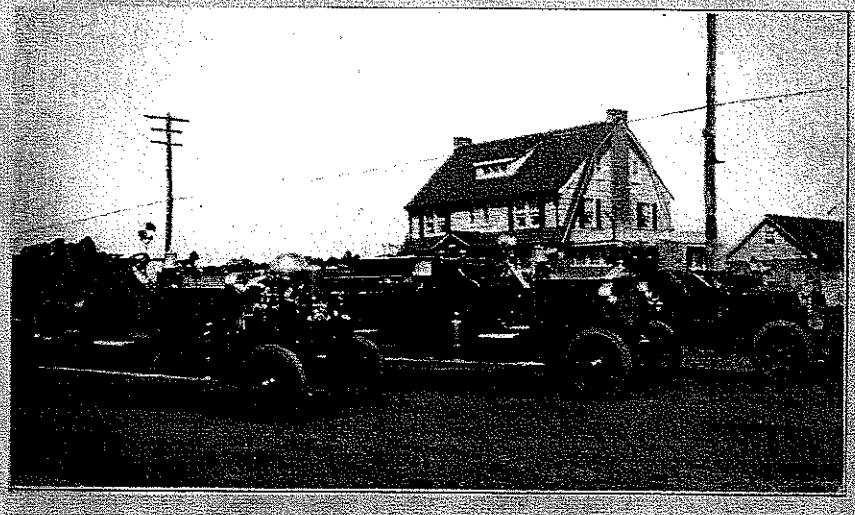
1906 - Hook and Ladder Company No. 1 on the side of George P. Schnurr's store (now Henry's Inn). Front Row (l-r): George Reckenbeil Jr., Fred Simon, Chris Gottsch, Ed Rave, Albert Rohrer, Stanley Remsen, Leonard Joerg, Ed Klein, William Baer, Adam Petrie, Myron Hendrickson. Back Row: Charles Donahue, P. Schultz, P.J. Miller, R. Slack, Adoph Hausch, J. Ludtmann, William Kiefer, George E. Christ Sr., August A. Krug, William Gartrell, Frank Wagner, Henry Wulfrost, Charles Baer, George P. Schnurr, Philip J. Christ, J. Nicholas Krug, Herman Wachter, John A. Kiefer, Frank Kiesling, George Reckenbeil. C. Christ in rear seat and Frank Ripple in drivers seat.
Photo: Marion Ripple Kessler



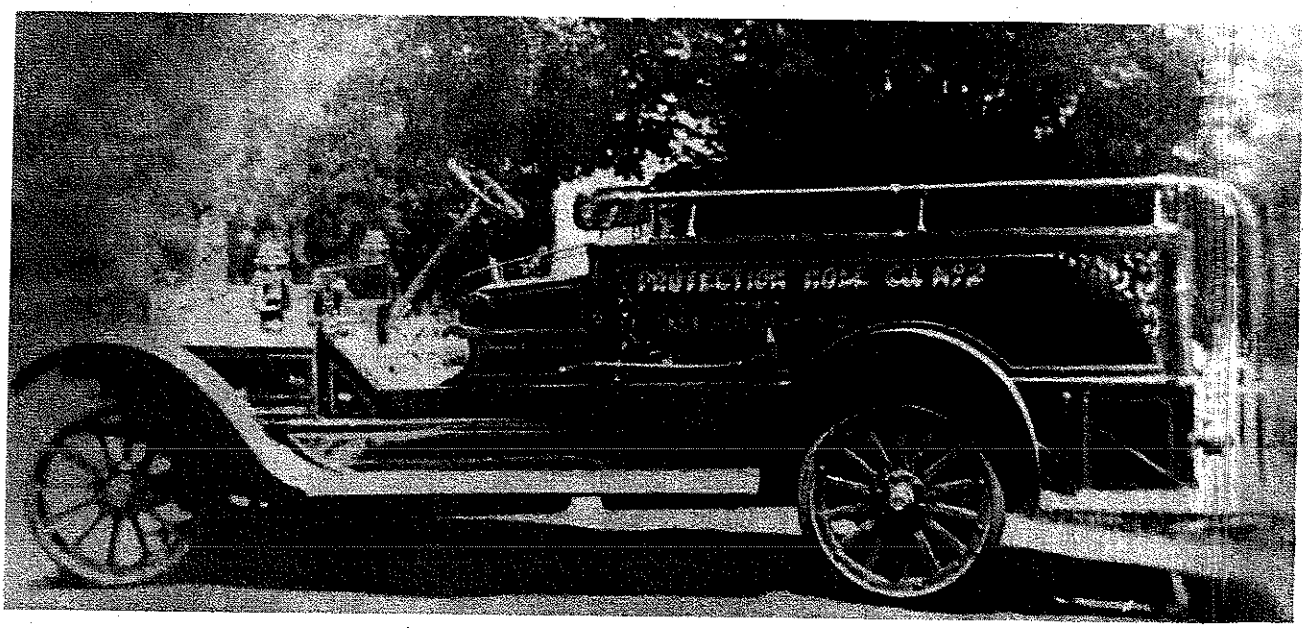
1929 - Active Hook and Ladder Company. August Krage in the white uniform.

Memorial Day 1934 - Ladies Auxiliary of the New Hyde Park Park Fire Department standing in front of the Fire House on Miller's Lane.
First Row (l-r): Viola Flynn (Kiefer), Alma Barlow, Errol Robinson (Commissioner), Theresa Robinson, Margaret Betz, John Brezisky (Commissioner), Louise Whelan, Herman Baer (Commissioner), Charles Conrad (Chief), William Hoffman (Commissioner), Ruth Greensword, Alice Betz, Mabel Roberts, Emma Gruenfelder, Phoebe Lockwood, Elizabeth Hoffman, Emma Betz, Harold Baer (Dep. Chief).
Second Row (l-r): Elizabeth Wiederman, Elizabeth Conrad, Rosella Hahn, Ana Evans, Matilda Thiessen, Agatha Claus, Theresa Stawecki, Sally Betz, Madeline Walz (Malvese), Theresa Betz, Mary Hopf, Frances Walz, Pauling Barchuk, Katherine Coyne, Rose Conrad, Anna Sartor, Justine Brandel (Krug), Grace Evans, Mary Holly, Anna Brown.
Photo and Information: Alma Barlow.

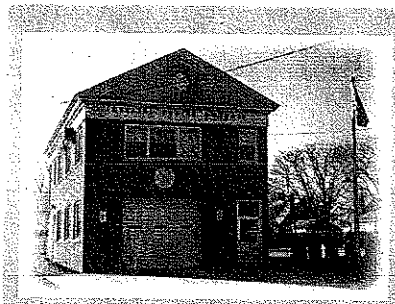
OUR FIRE DEPARTMENT APPARATUS
Pumper—Hook and Ladder—Hose Truck



New Hyde Park has one of the best fire departments on Long Island. It has three companies, consisting of 150 men. Its apparatus consists of an Ahrens Fox Pumper, having a pumping capacity of 1,000 gallons per minute; Ahrens Fox Hook and Ladder; and a Selden Hose Truck.

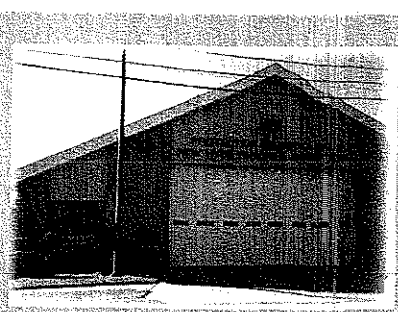


First Motor Vehicle Fire Truck. Photo: Fredrick Brown

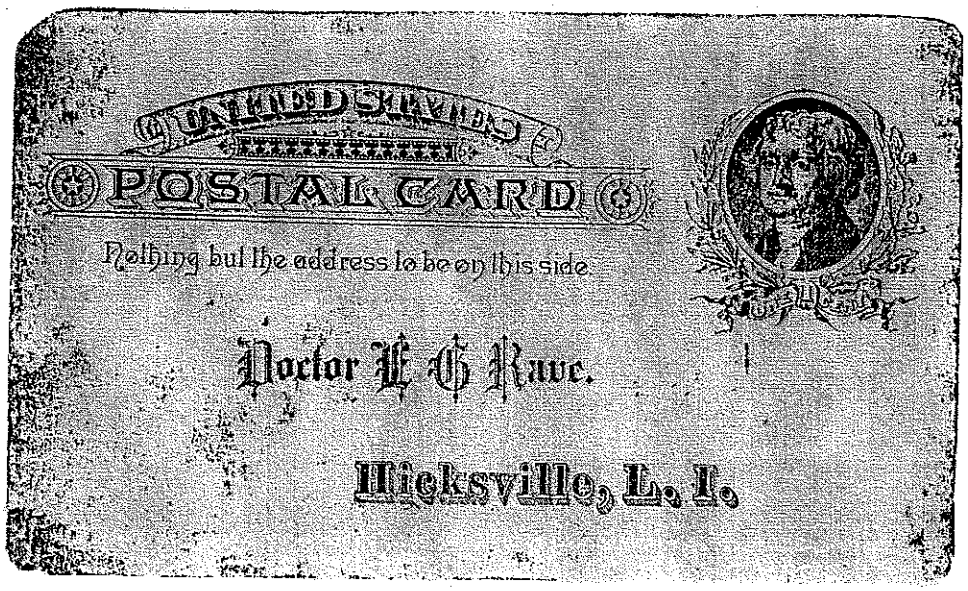


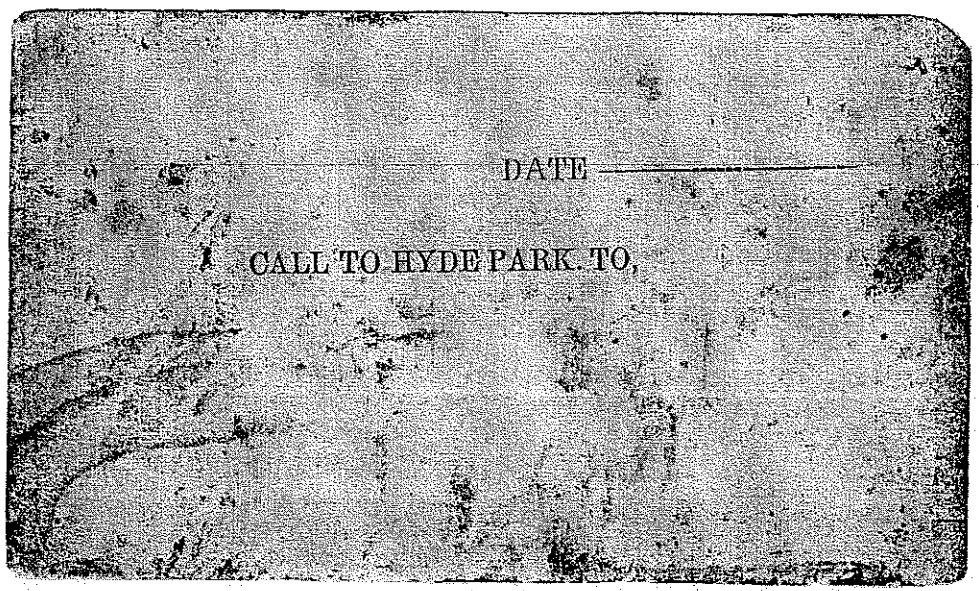
1996 - Estates Fire House. Lakeville road

1996 - New Hyde Park Fire Department Headquarters. Jericho Turnpike



1996 - Protection Fire House. South 5th Street





Physicians postcard, front and back.

24 - Medicine

In the last century, Hyde Park was such a small hamlet, quite rural and isolated with just a few families, all of whom were farmers. Around the middle of the century, new immigrants arrived and it seems everyone became an entrepreneur, of course that word was unknown to them. They just wanted to make a living. Most of them had some kind of trade and skill, and therefore the inhabitants had not far to go to satisfy their needs; there was a blacksmith, a harness shop, a bakery and a butcher, later even a cigar factory, a grocery store and of course not only one, but several inns.

What Hyde Park did not have was a medical doctor, and those early settlers relied mostly on home remedies. They brewed herbs as a beverage to drink or be applied as compresses. And no house was without: "HEILOEL." It came in a glass bottle with black gothic lettering on a white label and people just swore by its healing properties. HEILOEL is a German word and means: "healing oil." It was basically some menthol in an alcohol base. At that time work meant physical labor, so muscle pain was very prevalent and HEILOEL a welcome remedy.

A rural doctor had to serve a large area, so he left a postcard with his patients to be mailed when they were in need of him. To the left you see a copy of Dr. E. G. Rave's card. His address is already printed on it so the patient just had to write his name on the back. Then when there were several patients, Dr. Rave came by horse and buggy from Hicksville.

If you think that's strange, I have a more outlandish tale, although at that time people didn't find it peculiar. My grandmother was almost 80 yrs. old when she suffered a gallbladder attack. She wouldn't think of going to a hospital in the city, so the doctor with the nurse came to the house and that's where he performed the operation: right on the kitchen table. He must have been skillful and had his instruments sterilized, because my grandmother not only survived the surgery, but lived a few more years.

77-YEAR-OLD APPENDIX
TAKEN FROM WOMAN

Mrs. E. Christ of Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park, after living 77 years with an appendix has had it removed. She also was operated on for gall stones and is recovering.

Dr. Stumpf of Queens performed the operation which took away Mrs. Christ's appendix and at the same time some gall stones. The aged woman went through the double operation without any difficulty and showed a wonderful vitality which is helping her to recover rapidly.

Besides the recent operation, Mrs. Christ has overcome an attack of pneumonia and sleeping sickness which kept her ill for a couple of months. She is considered a wonder.

DRS. STARKEY & PALEN'S

TREATMENT BY INHALATION.

For Consumption
Asthma
Bronchitis
Dyspepsia
Catarrh
Hay Fever
Headache

TRADE MARK. REGISTERED.
DRS. STARKEY & PALEN
COMPOUND
OXYGEN
NOT A DRUG

For Debility
Rheumatism
Neuralgia
All Chronic
and
Nervous
Disorders

1529 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

"The Compound Oxygen Treatment," Drs. Starkey & Palen, No. 1529 Arch Street, Philadelphia, have been using for the last twenty years, is a scientific adjustment of the elements of Oxygen and Nitrogen, *magnetized*, and the compound is so condensed and made portable that it is sent all over the world.

"COMPOUND OXYGEN" being taken into the system, the Brain, Spinal Marrow, and the Nerve-Ganglia—"Nervous Centres"—are nourished and made more active. Thus the Fountain Head of all activity, both mental and physical, is restored to a state of integrity, and the nervous system, the organs, and the muscles all act more kindly and efficiently.

When "Compound Oxygen" is inhaled, the heart has imparted to it increased vitality. That organ sends forth the blood with more force and less wear to itself; the vital currents leave on their circuit new deposits of vital force in every cell of tissue over which they pass, and return again to the lungs for a new supply. This is a rational explanation of the greatest advance medical science has yet made.

OFFICE PATIENTS are under our personal inspection and care, visiting the office daily, or as frequently as their cases may require. We have a corps of six physicians, including ourselves, one of whom is a lady of large and varied experience, who is in constant attendance. Call, see, and judge of this treatment by inhalation. Consultations FREE.

DRS. STARKEY & PALEN have the liberty to refer to the following named well-known persons who have tried their treatment:

HON. WM. D. KELLEY, Member of Congress, Philadelphia.
REV. VICTOR L. CONRAD, Editor Lutheran Observer, Philadelphia.
REV. CHARLES W. CUSHING, D. D., Rochester, N. Y.
HON. WM. PENN NIXON, Editor Inter-Ocean, Chicago, Ill.
W. H. WORTHINGTON, Editor New South, Birmingham, Ala.
JUDGE H. P. VROOMAN, Quenemo, Kan.
MRS. MARY A. LIVERMORE, Melrose, Massachusetts.
JUDGE R. S. VOORHEES, New York City.
MR. E. C. KNIGHT, Philadelphia.
HON. W. W. SCHUYLER, Easton, Pa.
MR. FRANK SIDDALL, Merchant, Philadelphia.
EDWARD L. WILSON, 833 Broadway, N. Y., Ed. Phila. Photographer.
FIDELIA M. LYON, Waimea, Hawaii, Sandwich Islands.
ALEXANDER RITCHIE, Inverness, Scotland.
MRS. MANUEL V. ORTEGA, Fresnillo, Zacatecas, Mexico.
MRS. EMMA COOPER, Utilla, Spanish Honduras, Cent. America.
J. COBB, Casablanca, Morocco.
M. V. ASHBROOK, Red Bluff, Cal.
JACOB WARD, Bowral, New South Wales.
And thousands of others in every part of the world.

"COMPOUND OXYGEN—Its Mode of Action and Results," is the title of a new brochure of two hundred pages, which gives to all inquirers full information as to this remarkable curative agent, and a record of several hundred surprising cures in a wide range of chronic cases—many of them after being abandoned to die by other physicians. Will be mailed free to any address on application. Read the brochure!

DRS. STARKEY & PALEN,
1529 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

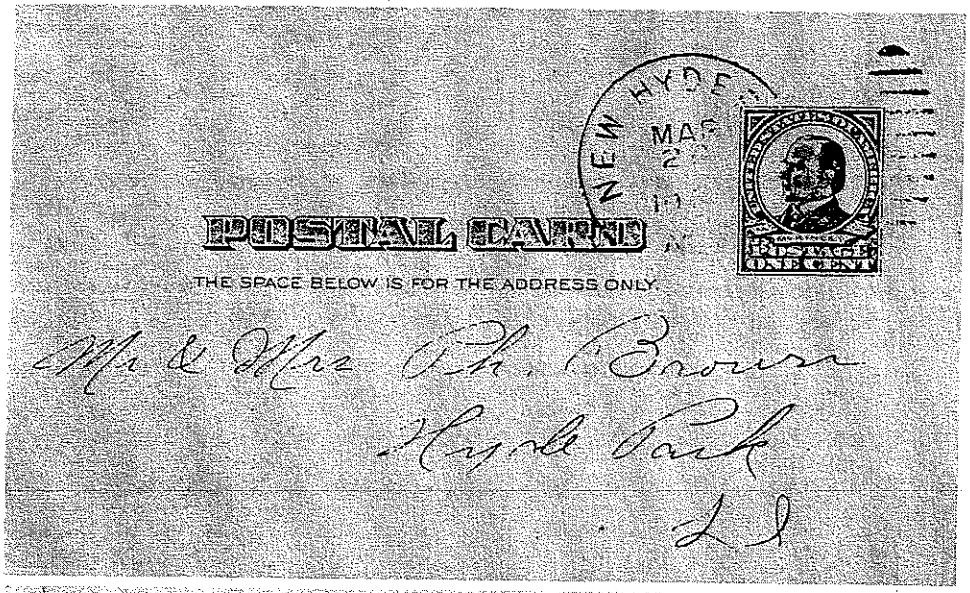
1888 ADVERTISEMENT

When I was a child we had a "Sanitarium" in Floral Park. It was staffed by a midwife and a visiting doctor, and some women went there to give birth. They also kept some old folks who were recuperating from sickness.

In the early twenties, it became quite fashionable to have childrens tonsils removed. The belief was that it would prevent colds. One day a salesman went from house to house in New Hyde Park to urge mothers to sign their children for surgery. My mother signed me and my older sister Bethel and after we were promised some ice cream, off we went and had our tonsils removed. It was not very traumatic for me, but Bethel was in pain and couldn't even taste the ice cream.

As for my mother, I am not sure what her motives were. Did she think of doing what's best for her children, or did we have the surgery, because she got two for one.

Cities had modern hospitals already, but New Hyde Park was quite rural yet. You know what we have now: Doctors and hospitals and Healthcare centers. And to think: All that within my own lifetime.


POSTAL CARD

THE SPACE BELOW IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.

Mr & Mrs Wm. F. Brown

New Hyde Park

L I

New Hyde Park Mutual Benefit Association.

NEW HYDE PARK, March 25, 1908.

You are hereby notified that ... the death of the member herein named you are required to pay to the Secretary of this Association, **One Dollar and Five Cents,** within **Thirty Days** from date of this notice.

Name	Residence	Cause of Death	Assessment Paid	Died
EMMANUEL CHRIST	New Hyde Park	Heart Failure	19	March 15, '08
When Admitted	Death No	Members Assessed	Time Expires	Age
Jan. 3, 1900	19	234	April 25, 1908	67 years

This assessment of **One Dollar and Five Cents** is now due from you, and must be paid to the Secretary on or before **April 25, 1908,** under the penalty provided by the By-Laws. *Failure to pay within 30 days forfeits membership.*

Return this card with a loose two cent stamp if a receipt is desired. Should you change your P. O. Address notify the Secretary immediately.

JOS. F. KIESLING, *Treasurer.* FRANK J. KIESLING, *Secretary*

Top: Front of New Hyde Park Mutual Benefit Association postcard.
Bottom: Back of postcard.

COMMITTEES OF THE VICTORY CELEBRATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman, Philip J. Christ
Secretary, Albert Rohrer
J. Nicholas Krug, Treasurer

William Gartrell
Frank Rippel
Alex. Donowske
Peter Peterson
Joseph Metzger
Miss Eva J. Simon
Louis Weber
John Flinn
Philip J. Miller
Ben Hauck
Miss Justine M. Krug
Mrs. Henry Kiefer
Mrs. Gottlieb Ruesch
Charles Hoffman
Miss Amelia Hoffman
Frank Wiedemann
Richard Roberts
Herman H. Baer
John Brezisky

SUBSCRIPTION COMMITTEE

F. B. Garvey, Chairman

John Brezisky
Frank Wiedemann
Walter C. Kiesling
Frank Rippel

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

Henry Baumann, Chairman

Mrs. Charles Hoffman
J. Nicholas Krug
Miss Dorothy Reuter
Louis Weber

PARADE COMMITTEE

William Gartrell, Chairman

John Schneider
Herman H. Baer
Nicholas J. Reuter
Walter C. Kiesling

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE

Mrs. Philip J. Christ, Chairman

Mrs. Henry Kiefer
Mrs. F. B. Garvey
Mrs. Albert Rohrer
Miss Anna Miller
Mrs. William Hausch
Mrs. John Schneider
Mrs. William Hoffman
Miss Minnie Rosenberg
Mrs. Scevola Diard
Miss Eva J. Simon

RECEPTION COMMITTEE

Charles Hoffman, Chairman

Miss Rose Hausch
Miss Anna Baer
Miss Amelia Hoffman
Miss Dorothy Reuter
Miss Adeline Rohrer
Alex. Donowske
Adolph Hausch, Sr.
Miss Ella Nelius
Miss Pauline Gscheidle
Leopold Pflug, Jr.
Scivola Diard
Miss Elsie Brown
Miss Elsie Rippel

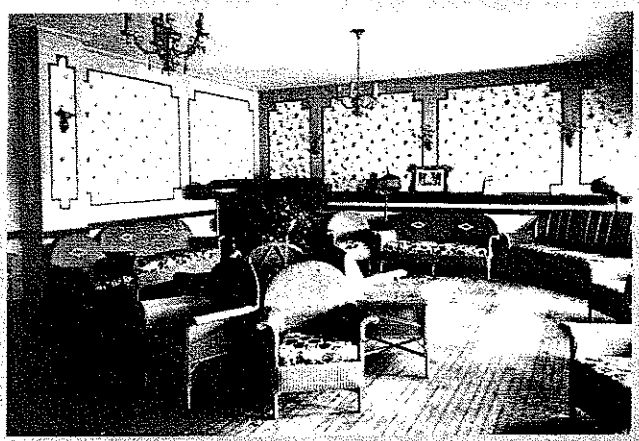
TABLET AND DECORATION COMMITTEE

Frank Rippel, Chairman

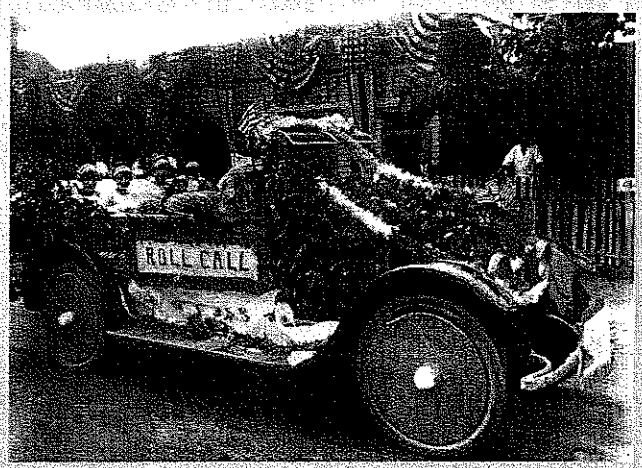
Miss Dorothy Reuter
William Gartell
Mrs. Gottlieb Ruesch
F. B. Garvey
J. Nicholas Krug

Get Wise—Owl Print, 384 Central Ave. 387

World War I Victory Celebration Committees.



Club Room, U.S. Veteran's Club of New Hyde Park, Inc.



1919 - Joerg Flower Car in a World War I Victory Parade. l-r: Violet Joerg, Amelia Hoffman, Francis Hensinger.

25 - War

Spanish American War

During the short history of our country, we have already fought quite a few wars and now (Sept. 1994), that Cuba is daily in the news, one is reminded of the Spanish American War. Spain was a mighty power in the last century, in possession of vast territories; amongst them Cuba. The Cubans wanted their independence, but their revolt against Spain failed and the Spanish government in 1896 instituted the "Reconcentrate" system by which Cuban population was isolated, and thousands died from disease, starvation and exposure.

In the U. S. the sympathy for the Cuban insurgents ran high, but President McKinley did not want to involve the country in a war. Several incidents occurred, one of which was the sinking of the US Battleship Maine in Havana harbor on Feb. 15, 1898, with a loss of 260 men. United States citizens were outraged, and by April 1898 we were at war with Spain. Our army consisted of 17,000 men, all volunteers. They were poorly trained, poorly equipped, but full of enthusiasm. Although the war was short, more died from disease than from wounds.

Peter A. Petersen

One of those enthusiastic volunteers was a resident of New Hyde Park, who never tired of telling about his participation in the heavy fighting at El Caney and San Juan Hill. He was fortunate as he neither got wounded, nor came down with a disease. His name should be on a plaque with the names of our veterans, but somehow through an oversight was omitted.

Peter A. Petersen was born in Denmark in 1878 but came to the United States as a young man and settled in New Hyde Park. He was a carpenter by trade, and his work was in demand by the rich people on the North Shore. When he returned from the war, he married in 1903 and built for his wife Pauline, a house on 5th Avenue all with his own hands with lumber from Camp Black in Garden City. His children were: Thelma in 1904, Mildred in 1907, Alice in 1910 and Harold in 1913. After the incorporation of the Village of New Hyde Park, Thelma became the first Registrar.

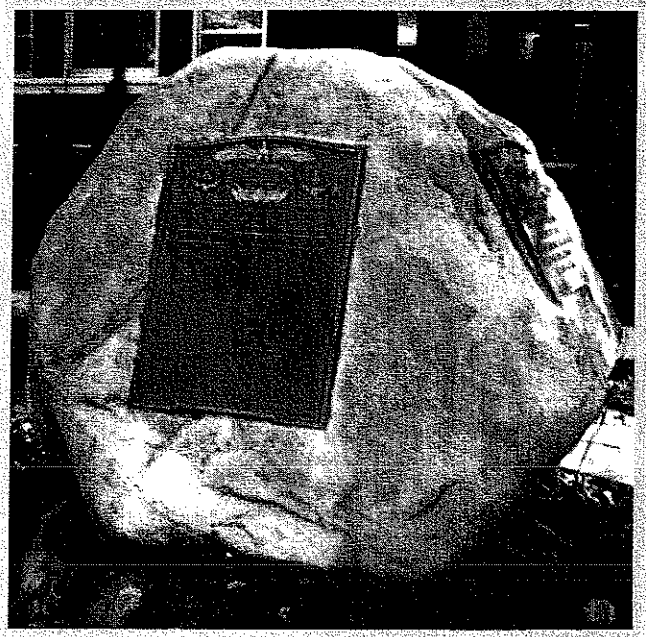
Peter A. Petersen was active in the community. He was a member of the First Reformed Church, a Mason and an Odd Fellow. He also belonged to the New Hyde Park Civic Association, the Shield of Honor and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Peter A. Petersen died in 1959.

Peter A. Petersen residence.
5th Avenue

World War I: Honor Roll In Memorium

Army

Capt. Howard A. Van Dine, 27th Inf.
Sgt. Jacob Friedman, Co. B, 305th Inf., 77th Div.
Sgt. Adolph Hausch, Jr., 422nd Baking Co., Bush Terminal
Sgt. Morris B. Jacobs, Co., G, 6th Inf., 5th Div.
Sgt. Louis C. Klein, 282nd Aero Squad., England.
Sgt. Arthur J. Reckenbeil, Q. M. C., Camp Upton.
Sgt. Charles E. Reckenbeil, Co., C, 313th Inf., 79th Div.
Sgt. Joseph R. Strong, Co. A, 4th U. S. Engineers.
Corp. Wilfred W. Bowen, 136th Aero Squad., TX.
Corp. William Gartrell, Jr., Motor Transport Co. No. 390, Fort Sam Houston, TX.
Corp. Joseph C. Krug, Co. B, 6th U. S. Engineers, 3rd Div.
Corp. Frank J. Miller, Co. C, 6th U. S. Engineers, 3rd Div.
Corp. August Rolly, Jr., Headquarters Co., 307th Inf., 77th Div.
Corp. Henry W. Schneider, Motor Truck Co. No. 401, Fort Bliss, TX.
Corp. Anthony A. Stawecki, Headquarters Co., 307th Inf., 77th Div.
Mech. August A. Krug, 16th Batt., Camp Dix.
William J. Allwang, Headquarters Co., 164th Inf., 41st Div.
Raymond Beeny, Battery D, 32nd Artillery, Camp Eustis
Marcus G. Christ, Student Army Training Corps., Phila., Pa.
Joseph Cody, Co. K, Replacement Engineers, Buffalo, NY.
John E. Dewar, 313th Field Hospital, France.
Eugene F. Earley, Batt. B, 4th Reg. Field Art.
Wellington W. Floyd, 470th Aero Squad.
Henry J. Hauck, Batt. E, 8th Reg. Field Art., Rep. Div.
William A. Hausch, Co. F, 310th Inf., 78th Div.
William A. Jacobs, Batt. D, 10th Field Art., 3rd Div.
Manek Januszkeuicz, Base Hospital Unit, M.D.
William E. Joerg, Cook Quartermasters, Camp Upton.
Clarence Keifer, Co. M, 106th Inf., 27th Div.
L. Walter Kiefer, Base Hospital, 52nd Med. Detach., France.
Alex Konopka, Batt. D, 27th Reg., AL.
William H. Korade, Co., D, 347th Inf., 87th Div.
John Krupa, Co. F, 4th Ammunition Train, France.
John E. Lahey, Base Hospital 48, France.
Alex Lermusik, Crooks Camp No. 2, Joyce, WA.
Julius H. Makowski, Co. K, 326th Inf., 82nd Div.
Joseph Raspanti, Supply Co., 305th Inf., 77th Div.
John F. Reckenbeil, Co. H, 2nd Reg. Engineers
George A. Rolly, Junior Aviator, Ground School, St. Paul, MN.
Frank Rosenberg, Sanitary Training School, France.
Charles Steck, Co. D, 5th Machine Gun Batt., 2nd Div.
Henry E. Steck, Spruce Production Div., Vancouver, WA.
William C. Umstadt, Co. B, 313th Inf., 79th Div., Wounded Nov. 8, 1918, in Argonne Battle

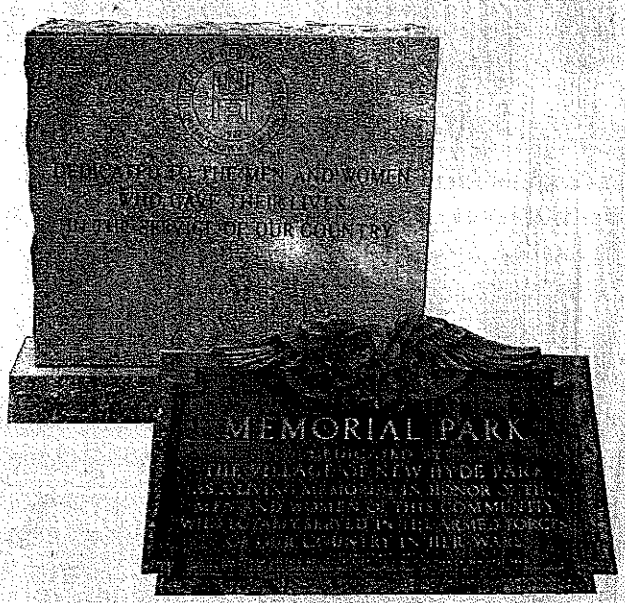


Navy

Cox. Charles E. Van Dine, Naval Reserve Force.
Edward R. Dunn, Shipfiter, U. S. Navy.
John P. Miller, Naval Reserve Force.
George A. Nelius, Carpenter Mate, U. S. Navy.
J. Clark Van Dine, U. S. Navy.
George A. Wiggins, Jr. (Deceased), 160th Co., 10th Reg. U. S. Mar. Corps.

National Guard N. Y. State

Sgt. Henry Radetzky, 1st Provisional Co., Valhalla, N.Y.



Freedom . . . . Is Not Free, These New Hyde Park Boys Died For It

World War I

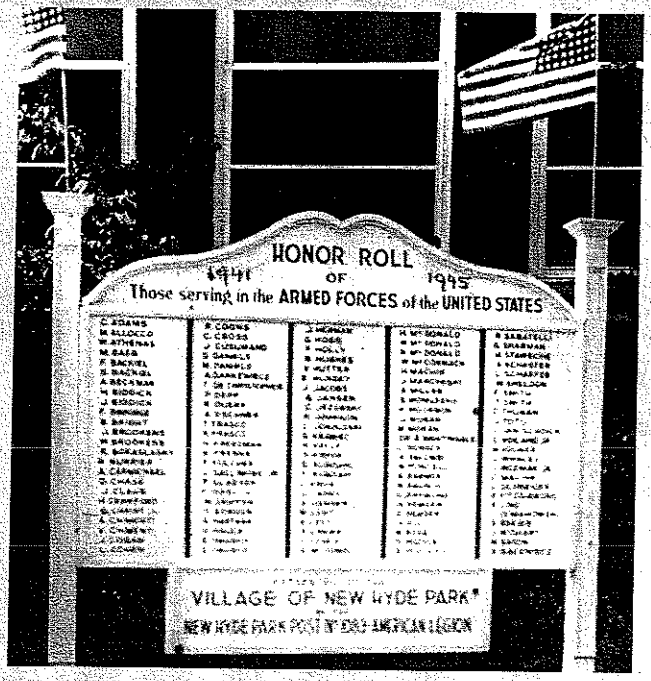
Fredick C. Gully, Co. F, 310th Inf., 78th Div.,
Died Feb. 26, 1918, Semur, France
Frank Kulesa, Co. A, 110th Inf.,
Died Oct. 3, 1918, of wounds.

World War II

Lt. Edward Barchuk
Sgt. Irving Barrington
Sgt. Henry Becth
Airman Hugh Biddick
Sgt. James Brookens
Sgt. Ben Cassmer
Pvt. Robert Deutsch
Sgt. Edward Hurley
Floyd Journay
PFC William Kleisrath
Sgt. Joseph Knight
M/Sgt. Francis Langen
PFC Eugene Linder
PFC Gerard Linder
Lt. Charles Machik
Sgt. Walter Mennel
PFC Stephen Merz
Pvt. Eugene McGann
Capt. John Moran
CM/3cl, Robert Neumann
S/1cl, Michael Peleschak
Ensign Roberto Rastelli
PFC Robert Reesseque
Tor/Mate, Thomas Roche
Radarman Ralph Sabatelli
Sgt. John Schaefer
Sgt. Edward Smith
PFC Sterling Taylor
Sgt. Alfred Tobin
PFC William Tobin
Sgt. Peter Torko
PFC Stratis Vasilakos
Sgt. William Wahrheit
PFC Willett Wallace
MIA: Civilian Worker, Richard Schoen

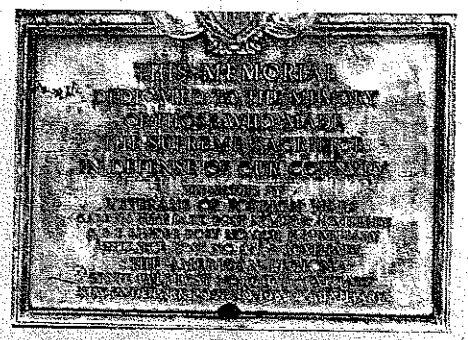
Korean War

Cpl. Norman Weidy, 08-02-50
(In WW II battlefield com. to Lt.)



Vietnam War

Capt. John Burke, 02-05-68
Pvt. John DiDomizio, 09-04-67
Cpl. John Ferrazzano, 10-17-68
PFC John Finnegan, 05-28-67
PFC Robert Finnegan, 01-31-68
SP4 Michael Gallagher, 10-17-67
Lt. Ralph Manners, 08-26-68
MIA: Col. John O'Grady, 04-10-67
PFC Robert Palenscar, 05-19-68
PFC Richard Proscia, 12-15-67
SP4 John Rupert, 02-12-68
Sgt. Thomas Scibelli, 12-27-69
SP4 Kenneth Scruton, 01-05-68
PFC Leo Silbert, 01-18-67
SP4 Donald Vallen, 05-14-69



"They have fought a good fight, they have finished their course, they have kept the faith."
Timothy 4:7

1935 - Robert Kalweit's Brauhof.
214 Jericho Turnpike

1996 - Willy Rueck's New Hyde Park Inn.
214 Jericho Turnpike

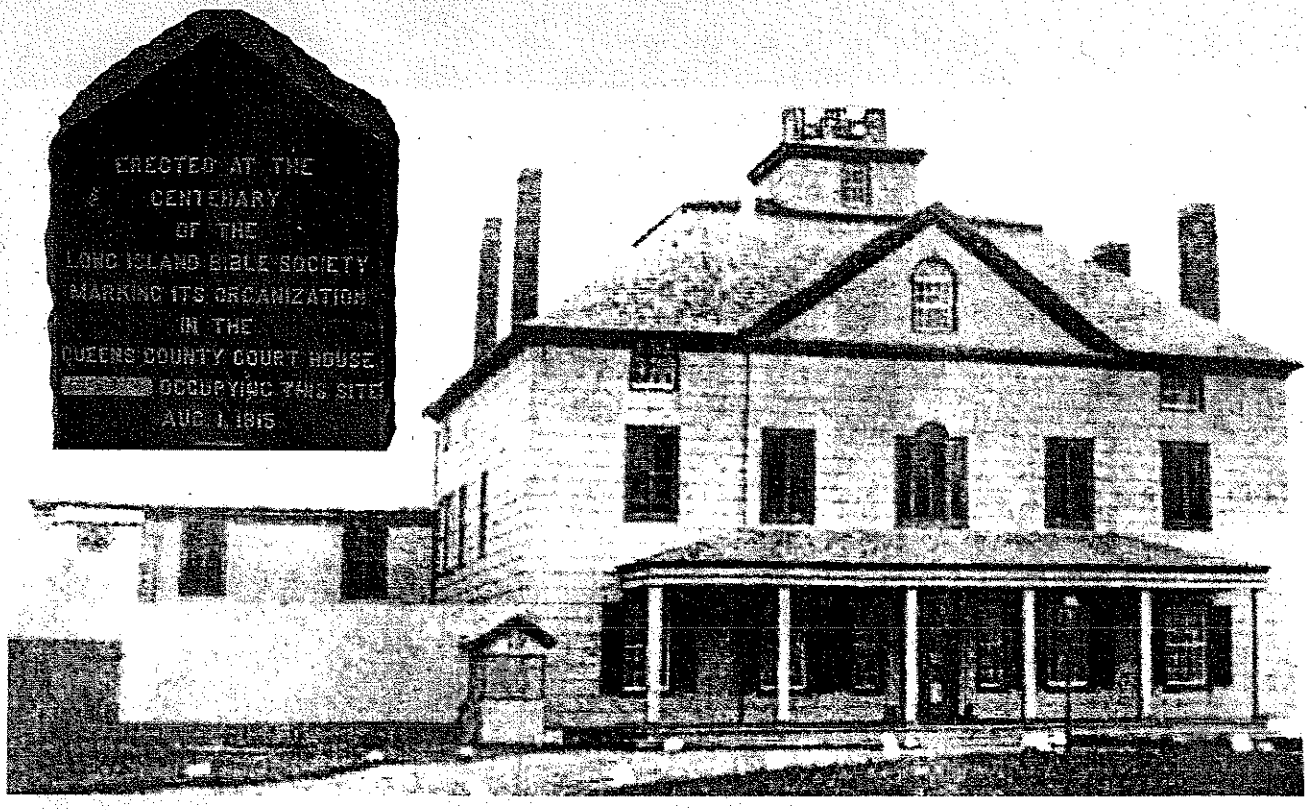
26 - New Hyde Park Inn

In 1898 there were already 5 Inns in New Hyde Park. The Village was still small, but already had a Post Office, and it was a favored spot for farmers for a break on their way to the market. That year Joseph Filarski bought property on the southwest corner of Jericho Turnpike and South 3rd Street. The land belonged to the Kelsey Family, but the last one to farm it has passed on and the heirs were not interested in continuing the tradition. They parceled it off and put it up for sale. Joseph Filarski's plot was large: 100 feet x 100 feet and he intended to build a Hotel. He really had great confidence in himself and thought New Hyde Park could support an other establishment. Yet he wanted it to be different. The farmers could stop at any Inn, so his place had to be better - larger stables for the horses with watering troughs and grooms. Nicholas Reuters Inn at the railroad station had a dance hall, so he intended to have a ballroom. His place was to be elegant, attracting not only farmers, but even wealthy residents of the area. The building had light tan brick veneer with green trim. A wraparound porch was enveloping the structure and the interior was dark wood paneling, which was very fashionable at that time. When it was finished with trees planted to enhance the appearance, it was the most elegant establishment around and Joseph Filarski named it the "Grand Central Hotel."

He was not disappointed in his expectations. His Grand Hotel was an immediate success. The bicycle came into vogue and many bicycle clubs were formed whose members came to Filarski's Hotel for meetings. Later, during the Vanderbilt Cup Races, many of the rich people booked rooms there. New Hyde Park thought of itself as quite an important place and many residents, especially the business people, toyed with the idea of having the hamlet developed into a resort area. They thought the land attractive and the greenhouses and flower fields of John Lewis Childs in adjacent Floral Park added to the beauty of the place. But times changed. Farmers took advantage of trucks and the railroad and New Hyde Park never became a resort and vacation spot. After 12 years in the business, Filarski sold out in 1910. The new owners were a German couple: Robert Kalweit and his wife bought the place in 1910 and operated it in a typical German fashion by placing emphasis on plentiful and good German food and drink. Now the place was not a "Grand Central Hotel" any more, and Robert Kalweit renamed it the "Brauhof." Things went well until prohibition, and the bar had to be closed.

During that time, I was a newspaper boy delivering the "Brooklyn Eagle", one of my customers was Robert Kalweit. I had to deliver right to the customers and therefore I always entered the place. The front door was locked, and I had to use the side door. Somehow the place looked quite spooky to me. The interior was only dimly lit, and the dark paneling added to the gloomy feeling.

Yet there were always people at the bar, which I could not understand. What were they drinking? When I finally asked some adults around town, I found out Mr. Kalweit was running a speakeasy. He must have made a living, because he never defaulted on any bills or taxes. Though the place was somehow run down, the building was still imposing, but without legitimate customers it lacked any atmosphere. So in 1938, it went up for sale and was bought by Willy and Rita Rueck. They opened on January 6, 1939, and once again a woman took over the kitchen. Her dishes and specialties were so delicious and outstanding that the reputation of the Inn was such to attract a clientele from a very large area. Gradually they made changes to the building and today the New Hyde Park Inn is again a grand place. Rita passed on, though Willy is still around greeting guests. Now the establishment is managed by his son Karl.



1815 - Queens County Court House, Garden City Park.
Jericho Turnpike

Built in 1870 - J. Riedel Taylor Shop, Kaplan & Weiner Drugstore.
Southwest corner of Jericho Turnpike and Covert Avenue

27 - Development of Jericho Turnpike

Contributed By: Mrs. C. Henry

Roads evolved slowly in the 17th and 18th centuries. Paths were worn from house to barn and neighbor to neighbor. Outside of the villages, cattle lanes were followed by sledge and cart. Surveyors laid out highways with transitory landmarks (and idiosyncratic spelling).

"Surveyed and Layed out a highway to be continued out of the highway that leads from Hempstead to Herricks round a watering place known as Clay Pitts 4 Rods west ... and out of the furrow road... round a watering place known by the name of Wett Holes..." Property lines were no more specific. In 1703, Samuel Clowes, surveyor and the first lawyer to settle on Long Island was hired to plot a piece of property. His report reads:

"A draft of a fifty acor Lott of wood Land Lying on the north side of ye Greate Plaines near Herricks ... beginning at a white ocke tree standing in ye north east corner of a fifty acor Parsell of Land ... Marked with 3 noches on tow side and ye letters II in ye middle of ye noches it runs Eaighty Rods East to a walnut saplin ..."

The ancient, mid-island Indian trail was used by the first settlers as they led their cattle to the plains natural pasture, and then by the Jamaica residents as they traveled eastward. Soon we find that stretch of road called the Jamaica Road.

In 1724, as the little villages grew and new settlements sprang up, the old footpaths were less than adequate, and the General Assembly of the Province of New York passed a act to revise local road systems. Surveyors laid out the North, South and Middle Country Roads on the island now called "Nassau". Years passed before the work was completed, but finally the Middle Country Road followed that same meandering path etched by Indians centuries earlier.

By the late Eighteenth Century, stages traversed the highways. Little more than great boxes mounted on springs, roofed with canvas or leather curtains to be let down in inclement weather, they offered the first public land transportation. Uncomfortable at best when the roads were dry, passengers were jostled as the great wooden wheels hit rut and stone, but far worse, when the ground thawed or rain fell, was the mud. Horses slipped and foundered, wheels sank hub deep and to a man, passengers dismounted to lighten the load and assist the driver.

In 1785, when the site specified as the "geographical center of Queens County" was selected for a new courthouse, it proved to be a little village plot on the north side of the highway. Since the eastern towns were more populous then, much of the traffic came from that direction, and that stretch of highway that led to the building was called "the road from Jericho to the Courthouse."

So we can trace, right from its beginnings, the oldest road on Long Island, our Jericho Turnpike. One hundred years later, the highway is called Jamaica Avenue from the city-line westward and of course Jericho Turnpike to the east. We might still wonder why part of the name is "turnpike". As the need for well maintained roads became ever more necessary, it was clear that the people who used

1885 - William Gartrell, wagon builder, the largest building and factory in New Hyde Park. Corner of 2nd Street and Jericho Turnpike (Sleep's Now)

them in some way would have to support the cost of maintenance. By 1807, the general turnpike laws were standardized, and Jericho Road from Jamaica to Oyster Bay became a toll road. The old highway was somewhat widened and straightened and toll gates were installed (locally at Rocky Hill Road and Willis Avenue). At first the local farmers were disgruntled at the prospect of paying to use what was considered a public highway, but the advantages soon became apparent as the road was maintained capably and travel was a bit easier.

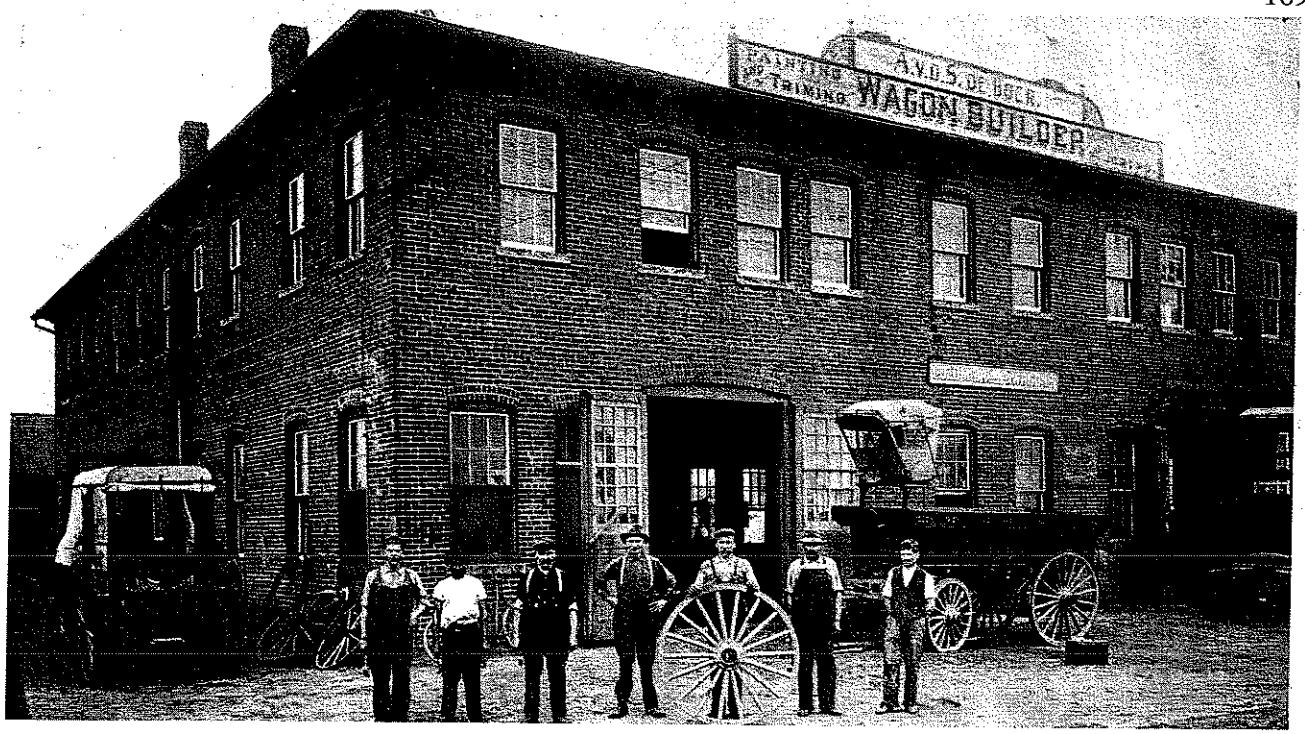
For almost forty years, the Jericho Turnpike Co. prevailed, but increased travel and the ubiquitous mud continued to be a serious problem. A much heralded forerunner of the hard surfaced highway was coming into its own, and in 1853 road rights were sold to the Jericho Plank Road Co.

The road bed was excavated and lined with great stones. Heavy planks laid horizontally provided a relatively smooth road surface. It seemed, for a time, to be perfect solution to the beleaguered traveler, but it too, after years of use, proved less than satisfactory. Planks shifted and rotted and even then it was recognized that the continued use of large quantities of lumber was not practical or economical. Reportedly with some measure of relief, the company issued a "surrender of abandonment" to the county in 1891.

A new sport was emerging at this time, and surprisingly, it had a rather dramatic effect on the country's highways. With the development of the pneumatic tire, the bicycle became enormously popular and cycling clubs were formed throughout the country. These enthusiasts insisted upon well maintained, smooth surfaced roads and since a new surfacing material named for its inventor McAdam had been recently introduced, they were accommodated. Bicycles were licensed and guide boards were posted at country crossing, forerunners of today's road signs.

McAdam finished roads were now expected as the norm and they paved the way, literally and figuratively, for future development. Electrical energy had been harnessed for industrial use, and tracks for electrically powered trolleys were laid out between villages.

During the summer of 1906, the New York and Long Island Traction Company opened a trolley line along Jericho Turnpike. A single set of tracks ran along north side of the highway, with sidings



1892 - A.N.D.S. De Boer, wagon builder.

situated every few miles to allow the eastbound trolley to pull off the main track to allow the car heading west to pass by. The fare was 5¢ a zone, a half-fare rate for students. Connecting lines ran north and south and the Port Washington car boasted a pot bellied stove to warm its passengers.

The old road had come a long way, but there were still some problems along the way. The road we know as our western village boundary, Denton Avenue, follows the bed of an ancient river which carried glacial waters to the ocean. The turnpike dropped so deeply as it crossed the natural decline that it was often flooded, and heavy snow made the road impassable to vehicles. The little green work trolley with its large, front-mounted rotary broom could handle a light snowfall, but a substantial accumulation guaranteed a school holiday for students who traveled by trolley to Hempstead, Jamaica and Mineola High Schools.

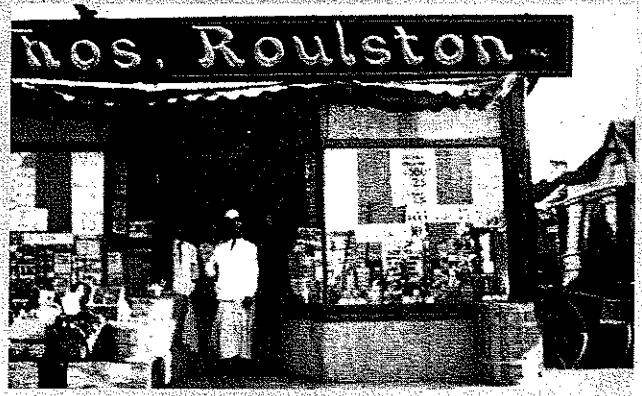
By the late 1920's, the refinement of the automotive engine enabled people to travel independently, and newly formed bus companies established routes, which were to mark the eventual demise of the quaint orange and yellow turnpike trolleys.

In 1925, the county contracted with the E. T. Earl Co. to update the road once again. The sharp drop at Denton was filled somewhat, and the company straightened some sharp bends and cemented the roadway.

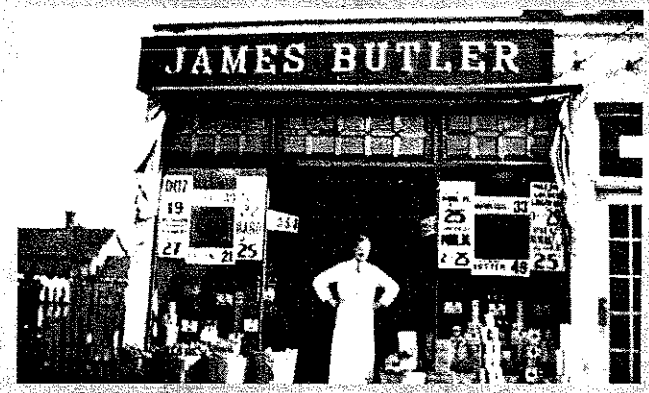
While we can trace the development of Jericho Turnpike from the days when Indians camped there to the modern artery it is today, we can also discover how some of our secondary roads developed.

On our eastern boundary, from the turnpike to Herricks, the old road from Herricks to the Courthouse became simply Herricks Road. South of Jericho, the same byway was called Clowesville Lane. The western boundary, the old Tanners Pond Road, gradually came to be called Denton Avenue. After the Denton family bought the property surrounding their homesite (now McDonald's). The old County Courthouse Road once veered southwest (it continues in Franklin Square) to meet the South Country Road and then east to Hempstead. As County Courthouse Road crosses Jericho, it continues northeasterly and is called Marcus Avenue. That familiar road was so named in 1910, some years after a large part of its southern "counterpart" had disappeared, by the Supervisor of the County for his son, Marcus G. Christ.

1932 - H.C. Bohack Co.
Now: Park Delicatessen.
902 Jericho Turnpike



1932 - Thomas Roulston.
Now: Roosevelt Savings Bank.
1114 Jericho Turnpike



1932 - James Butler.
Now: Long Island Floors.
906 Jericho Turnpike

1932 - A & P.
Now: Hollywood Magic.
1014 Jericho Turnpike

Historic New Hyde Park - Corner of South 9th Street and Jericho Turnpike, looking east from 900.

Public transportation, Schenk Bus Company: Queens to Mineola.

1925 - Jericho Turnpike before the widening.

Business Section of Jericho Turnpike.

Nassau Boulevard, an integral part of the new community Garden City developed in the closing years of the Nineteenth Century, moved northward slowly. Hoping to capitalize on success of the elegant Garden City community, the Garden City Estates Company proposing a similar development to the north decided to extend Nassau Boulevard. Wanting to preserve the malled format and eliminate the grade crossing, the new road was created intersecting Jericho Turnpike at a right angle. Mr. Ernest Marshall, whose father, Cyril E. Marshall, was the engineer for the project, writes "...my father played a part in the location of the boulevard north of the tracks. As a dummy, he bought the lots which were to be used for extension of the boulevard ... The developers of Garden City Estates were afraid the price would rise if it were known they were interested in these lots ... The land north of the track had been mapped... and the rectangular block system existed, at least on paper... Atlantic Avenue, Fulton Avenue and Broadway ran east and west as they do today, parallel with the railroad. Running from Broadway, a few hundred feet west of County Courthouse Road was Emerald Street, a fifty-foot-wide street only a couple of blocks in length. Using this as a starter..." And so they continued Nassau Boulevard to Jericho Turnpike. During the late 20's, the boulevard crept across the highway to run a bit further north to accommodate the newly built homes of Spanish architecture at the east end of First and Second Streets. By 1939, further development caused the continuation of the street as far as Sixth Street and finally, in the 50's it was fully extended to its juncture with Marcus Avenue.

Central Avenue was from the 1870's a road of sorts, for some of its old homes were built during that period. In 1925, in anticipation of the first school in Garden City Park opening, Central Avenue was cemented.

By the end of the second world war, everyone's dream of owning a home was being fulfilled, and the farmland of the plains gave way to the real estate developer. Streets were laid out and quickly paved. In 1957-1958, sewer systems were installed and a few years later curbstones were laid to define the many little streets.

1935 - Park Theater on Jericho Turnpike.

1967 - The changing face of the Park Theater: Eldee and the Red Apple on Jericho Turnpike.

1996 - Park Theater on Jericho Turnpike.

1970 - Looking east on Jericho Turnpike from South 9th Street: Gelman Liquor Store, Park Deli, Barber Shop and Long Island Floors.

1936 - Looking south at corner of Jericho Turnpike and New Hyde Park Road.
Photo: Steve Limoncelli

1996 - 612 Jericho Turnpike.

1996 - Leonard Farm Homestead (1880).
Jericho Turnpike

Historic Building.
1208 Jericho Turnpike

Historic Building.
500 Jericho Turnpike

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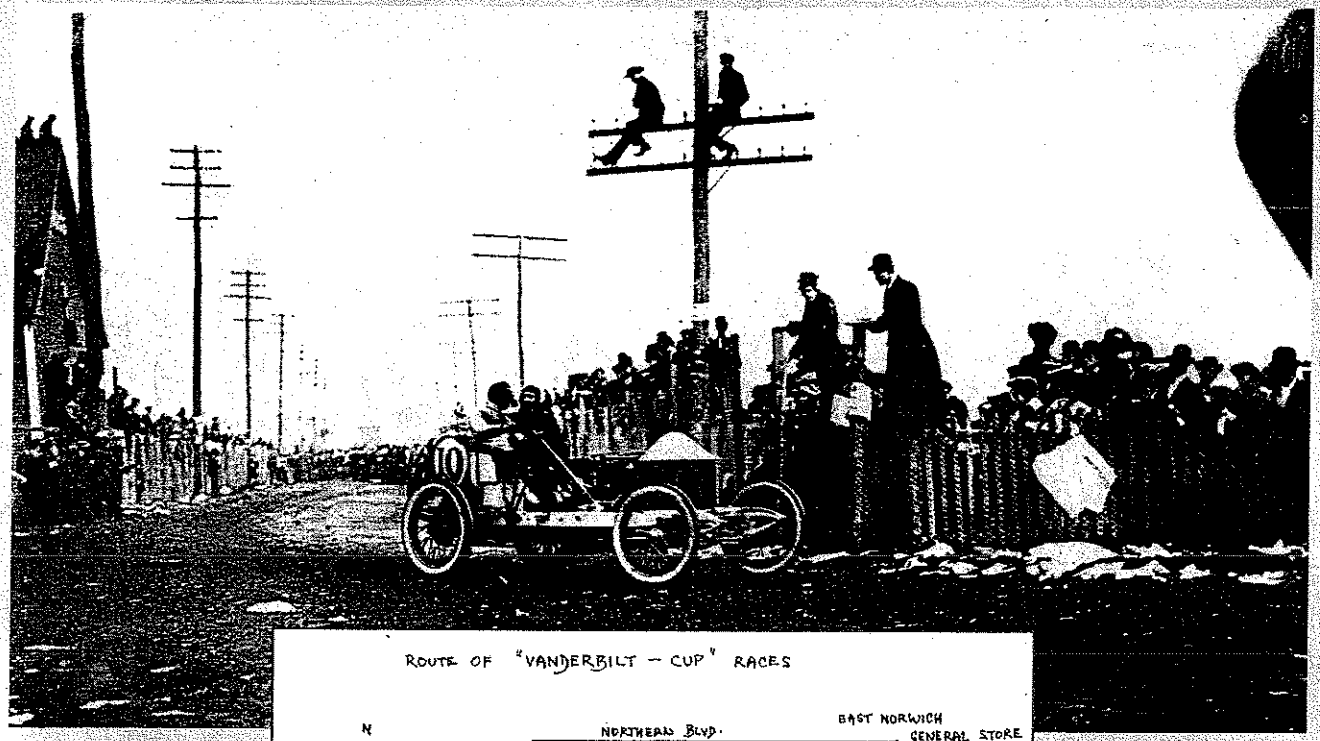
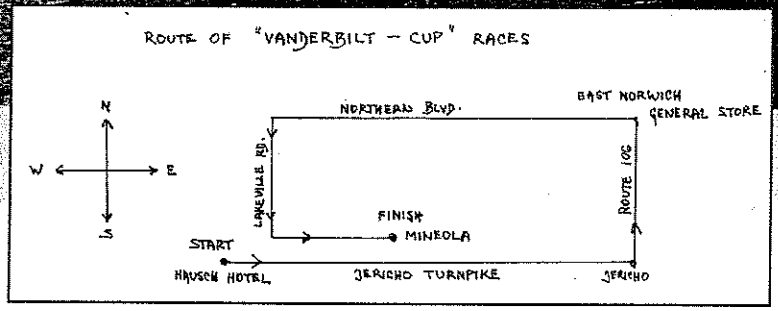
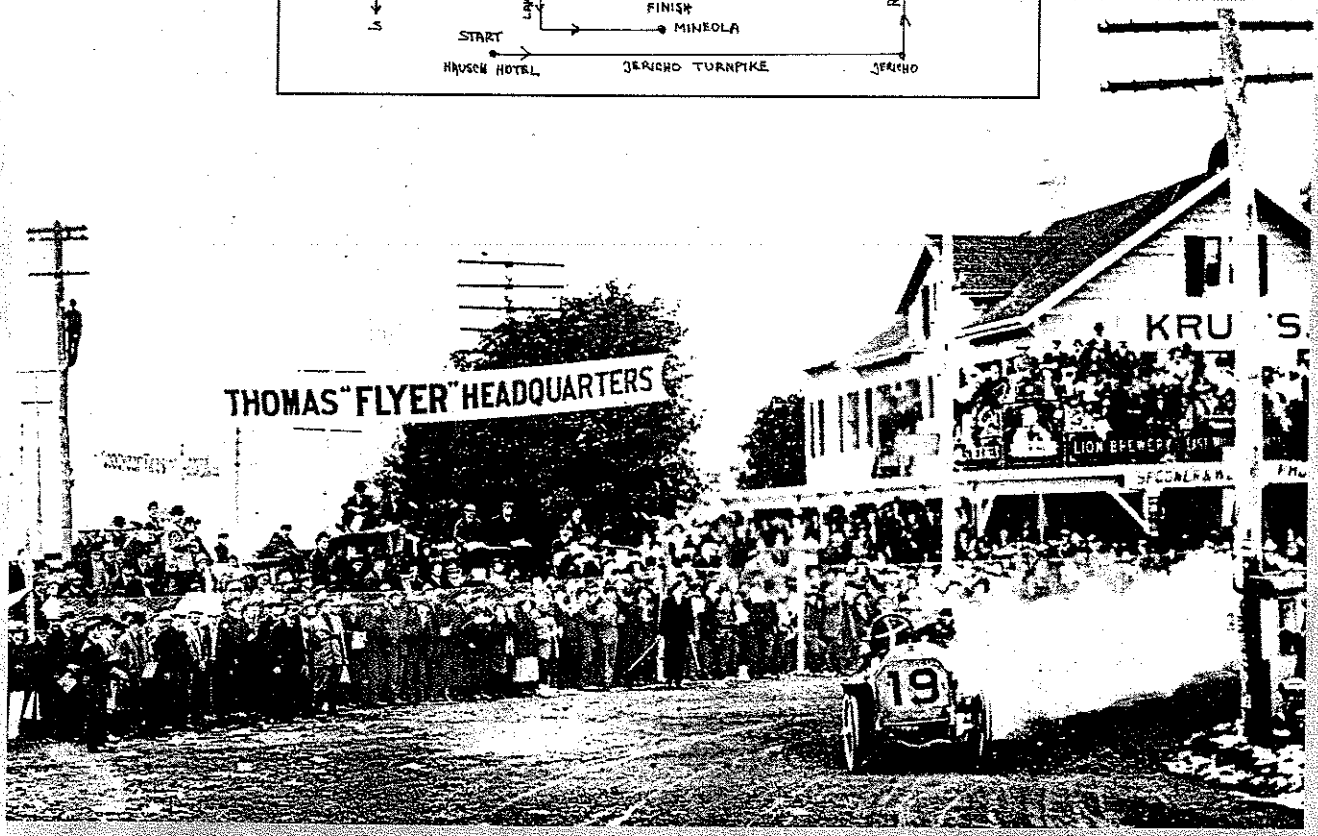


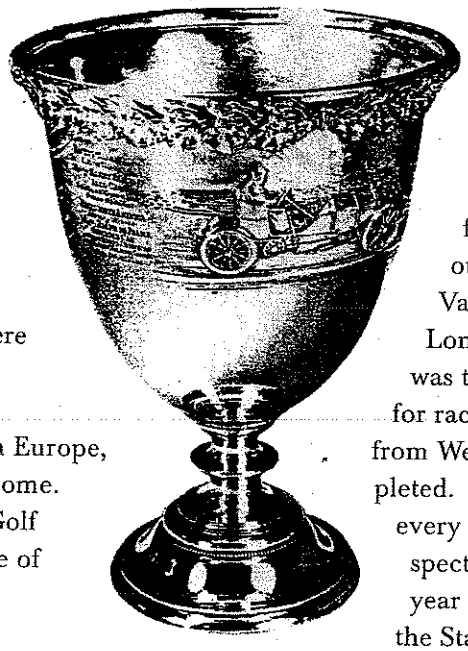


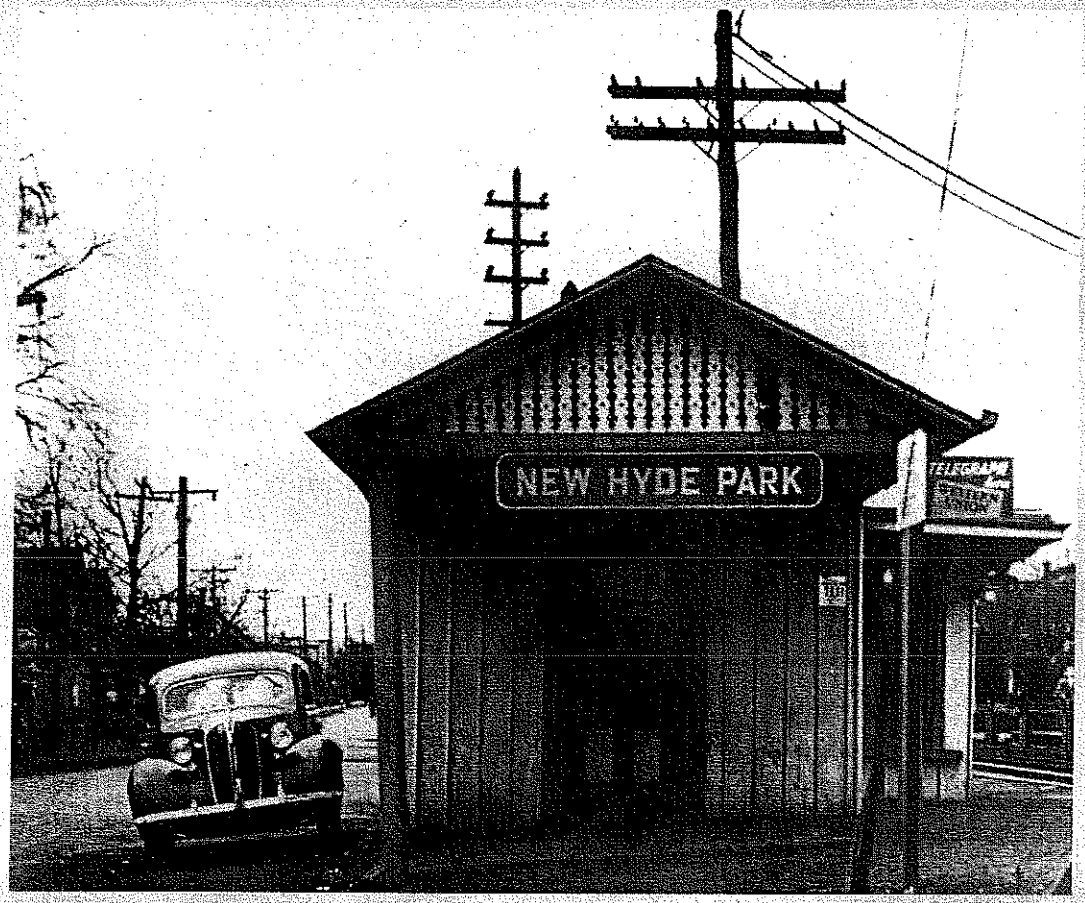


"Vanderbilt Cup" races and race route.

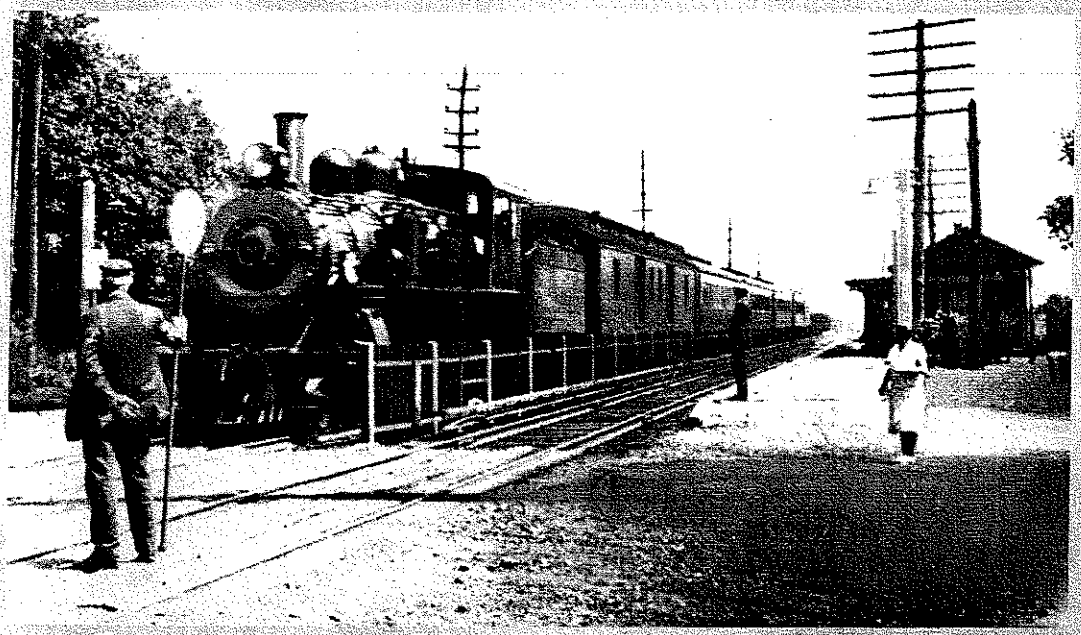
28 - "Vanderbilt Cup" Races

The "Vanderbilt Cup" was indeed a handsome trophy. It consisted of 30 pounds of silver and was designed by Louis Comfort Tiffany. It cost $2,000.00 which doesn't sound like much compared to today's prizes. Of course the cup was of interest only to the racers. The spectators as many as 250,000 wanted to see the cars. They were racing cars, especially designed for high performance and out of reach for even the affluent people of the community. They were the playthings of the rich. William Kissam Vanderbilt Jr. who, with his Mercedes was already competing in Europe, wanted to bring the races close to home. His estate was formerly Deepdale Golf Club and is now used by the Village of Lake Success. The 30-mile route he proposed was from New Hyde Park Jericho Turnpike right on the corner of Hausch Hotel east to Jericho, then north to East Norwich, then west along Northern Boulevard and south on Lakeville Road, back to New Hyde Park with the finish in Mineola. Many farmers were opposed. The roads were only dirt roads, cattle wandered freely, and they thought the whole undertaking just too dangerous. But Vanderbilt wasn't a Vanderbilt for nothing. He was able to convince the Nassau County Board of Supervisors of the merits of the races, that they would stimulate interest in the development of cars and roads. The board approved and the first race was held on October 8, 1904. What a sight that was: spectators all over even sitting on the telephone poles. People were pulling and pushing and the farmers were right; it was dangerous and someone got killed. So Vanderbilt proposed to construct a Long Island Motor Parkway which was to be a 45-mile toll road but used for racing. In 1908, a 9-mile section from Westbury to Bethpage was completed. Meanwhile the races were held every year. Every year there were spectators from all over, and every year someone got killed. So in 1910, the State legislature passed a law prohibiting races on public roads. Some people in New Hyde Park were glad, but many thought the races gave the village some importance and added to the prestige. There are no more "Vanderbilt Cup" races, there is no more the old Long Island Motor Parkway. But the automobile is triumphant! No more a plaything of the rich, but a necessity. And there are roads and parkways and an Expressway crisscrossing all over the island.





New Hyde Park Railroad Station.
Photo: Evelyn Baer Petterson



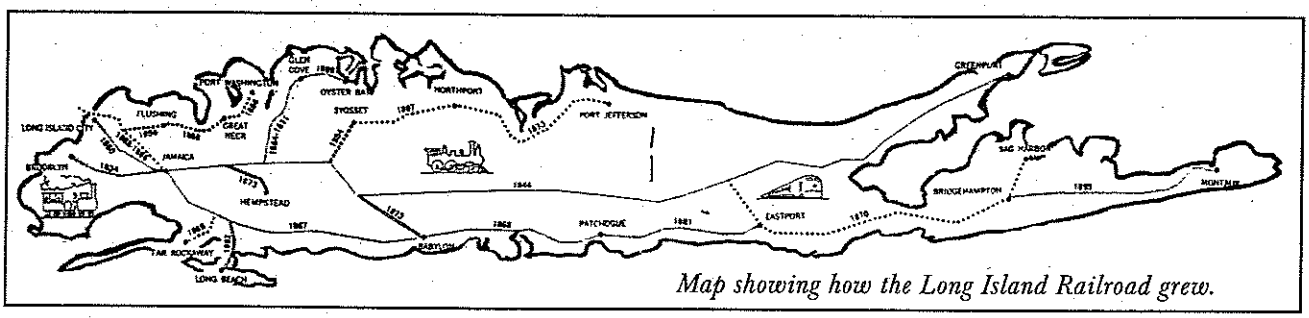
1925 - The Long Island Railroad crossing at Millers Lane.
The Iron Horse, the Flag Man and Station.

29 - Long Island Railroad

One of the thrills of my childhood was to go down to the station and watch the trains. At that time there was still a lot of freight moved by rail and reading the names of the various companies, I could just marvel at the distant places they originated. But the greatest pleasure was to watch the passenger trains. When my cousins visited, the first thing they wanted to do was to go down to the station. There was no raised platform yet and the station house was not more than a little hut. We were standing in the road watching the departure of the train. The signal man gave the "all clear sign," the conductor hallowed "All on Board," and the locomotive started to move slowly with the Choo-choo sound, which became louder and faster, the whistle blew. We waved to the motor man and the conductor. The sound faded into the distance, and we watched the train disappear. We were left with a longing to be on the train ourselves. I felt privileged to live near the railroad, to show off the station to my cousins and have the trains actually stop at New Hyde Park. When my grandmother moved to Hyde Park, she was not that fortunate. The Long Island Rail Road at that time was in financial difficulties, and the stop at Hyde Park was eliminated.

April 24, 1834, marked the birth of the L.I.R.R. with a charter from New York State. The project was to lay tracks from Brooklyn to Greenport to move freight from New England to New York. It was assumed that the terrain in Connecticut was too rugged and not suitable for train service. There were 17 original charter signers who put up the money for the L.I.R.R. the cost of which was to be a million and a half dollars. They chose to build the 95-mile line through the middle of the island because it was the flattest and least populated route, and therefore the most direct and the cheapest to complete. Meanwhile there were rival companies; at one time as many as twenty separate ones criss-crossing the Island. They did not last, went into bankruptcy or were later taken over by the L.I.R.R.

1926 - New Hyde Park Railroad Station.



Map showing how the Long Island Railroad grew.

It took 3 years to complete the 15-mile stretch from Brooklyn to Hicksville, which was just empty land at that time, no hamlet yet and was only later named Hicksville after Lawrence Hicks, who was one of the original signers. The line was to have two stops for taking on of water and refueling: one at Hardscrabble (now Farmingdale), the other at Punk's Hole (now Manorville).

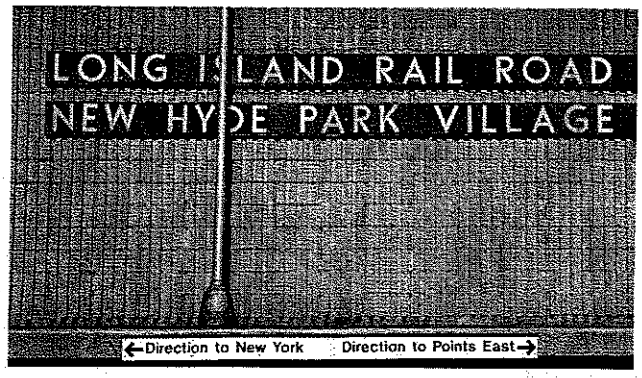
Finally in 1844, the construction was completed and the inaugural run was held July 17, 1844. The railroad was an immediate success, but with the farmers along the route though. The sparks from the woodburning engines caused fires and damage to fields and livestock and farmers fought the railroad in court.

For just a few years, L.I.R.R. monopolized travel between Boston and Brooklyn, but in 1848 the rival railroad succeeded in laying tracks for an "All Rail Service" from Boston to New York. Moving freight through New England was now much more convenient and soon the L.I.R.R. found itself in bankruptcy. In 1850, it went into receivership and was saved when the legislature in Albany voted a $100,000.00 loan to bail out the company. The railroad had some more ups and downs, but eventually acquired the lines through the populated areas of the Island, and with the opening of the East River tunnels in 1910 the commuters had direct access to Penn Station and New York City.

Today the Long Island Rail Road is the most heavily traveled local railroad in the world and moves over 70 million people a year.

OLD AND NEW. Spic and span new LIRR Station above is now in service at New Hyde Park, replacing veteran depot in use since 1888, when public spirited founders of village passed the hat for $250. Successor cost $35,000, includes a waiting room, ticket office, rest rooms. Old station which lost a close construction race with the post office severed thousands of commuters, and was an entraining point for throngs of Army-bound men inducted through Selective Service Board 725.

Old NHP Station Shunted Off



1996 - Long Island Railroad Station.

LONG ISLAND RAILROAD.

On and after WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1st, 1852, and until further notice, Trains will run as follows,

SUNDAYS EXCEPTED.

Trains Moving East — LEAVE	Miles	Mail and Passenger Train.	Hempstead Train.	Farmingdale Train.	Jamaica Train.	Freight Train.
		A. M.	M.	P. M.	P. M.	A. M.
Brooklyn,		10 00	12 00	3 30	6 00	7 00
Bedford,	2½	10 22	12 22	3 52	6 22	7 22
New Brooklyn,		.....	12 27	.....	6 26	.....
EAST NEW-YORK,	5½	10 30	12 32	**4 00**	6 36	7 45
Cypress Avenue,	7	.....	12 37	4 05	6 40	8 00
Union Course,	8	.....	12 40	4 10	6 44	8 05
Woodville,	9	.....	12 44	4 13	6 47	8 10
JAMAICA,	11	10 45	12 50	**4 20**	6 55	8 20
Willow Tree,		.....	12 54	4 24		
Brushville,	14	10 54	1 00	4 30		8 40
Hyde Park,	17½	11 02	1 12	4 38		9 00
H. BRANCH,	20	11 10	**1 20**	4 45		9 15
Hempstead,	22½		1 30			
Carl Place,	22	11 15		4 50		9 25
Westbury,	23	11 18		4 53		9 30
Hicksville,	26	11 25		5 00		9 45
Farmingdale,	31	11 40		5 15		10 15
Deer Park,	37	11 58		5 33		10 50
Thompson,	41	12 08		5 45		11 15
SUFFOLK STATION,	43½	**12 15**		5 53		11 30
NICHOLS ROAD,		**12 20**		.....		.....
LAKELAND,	49	12 30		6 02		**12 00**
Waverly	53	12 40		6 15		12 20
Medford,	55	12 45		6 21		12 30
Bellport,	57½	12 50		6 28		12 45
YAPHANK,	60	**12 58**		6 35		**12 58**
Wampmissic,	64	1 08		6 43		1 20
Manor,	66	1 15		6 53		1 30
River Head,	74	1 35		7 18		2 15
Jamesport,	79	1 50		7 30		2 45
Mattituck,	83	2 00		7 40		3 05
Cutchogue,	86	2 08		7 47		3 25
Hermitage,	89	2 15		7 50		3 40
Southold,	91	2 20		8 00		3 50
Greenport,	95	2 30		8 10		4 15

Trains Moving West — LEAVE	Miles	Mail and Passenger Train.	Farmingdale Train.	Hempstead Train.	Jamaica Train.	Freight Train.
		A. M.	A. M.	P. M.	A. M.	A. M.
Greenport,		10 00	4 00			8 00
Southold	4	10 10	4 10			8 20
Hermitage,	6	10 15	4 16			8 33
Cutchogue,	9	10 22	4 25			8 48
Mattituck,	12	10 30	4 33			9 05
Jamesport,	16	10 40	4 45			9 25
River Head,	21	10 55	5 00			9 50
Manor,	29	11 15	5 20			10 30
Wampmissic,	31	11 22	5 27			10 45
Yaphank,	35	11 32	5 40			11 05
Bellport,	37½	11 40	5 47			11 18
Medford,	40	11 45	5 55			11 30
Waverly,	42	11 50	6 00			11 40
LAKELAND,	46	**12 00**	6 10			**12 00**
NICHOLS ROAD,						**12 20**
SUFFOLK STATION,	51½	**12 15**	6 27			12 32
Thompson,	54	12 22	6 37			12 45
Deer Park,	59	12 32	6 45			1 05
Farmingdale,	64	12 50	7 00			1 40
Hicksville,	69	1 05	7 15			2 10
Westbury,	72	1 12	7 21			2 25
Carl Place,	73	1 15	7 25			2 30
Hempstead,	75½			3 40		
H. BRANCH,	75	**1 20**	7 30	3 50		2 40
Hyde Park,	77½	1 28	7 37	3 58		2 55
Brushville,	81	1 36	7 47	4 10		2 15
Willow Tree,		.....	7 52	4 16		
Jamaica,	84	1 45	7 55	**4 20**	6 30	3 30
Woodville,	86	.....	8 02	4 25	6 38	3 40
Union Course,	87	.....	8 05	4 30	6 42	3 46
Cypress Avenue,	88	.....	8 09	4 33	6 47	3 51
EAST NEW-YORK,	89½	2 00	8 15	4 37	6 54	**4 00**
New Brooklyn,		.....	.....	4 42	6 58	
Bedford,	92½	2 08	8 23	4 48	7 03	4 18
Brooklyn,	95	2 30	8 45	5 10	7 25	4 40

N. B.—The rate of speed fixed by the Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of Corporation of Brooklyn, must occupy twenty-two minutes between Clove Road and the Depot at South Ferry, viz:—FIVE MINUTES between the Depot and the *East Gate* of the Tunnel; TEN MINUTES between said East Gate to the *East end* of the Plank, at the present crossing of *Flatbush Road*, PRECEDED BY A MAN WITH A FLAG, ON HORSE-BACK; and SEVEN MINUTES from thence to said Clove Road. Enginemen and Conductors will be held strictly answerable for exceeding the rate of speed fixed by *said Ordinance*.

The full-faced type and figures, "*with line underneath*," show the Passing and Meeting Stations.

Passenger Trains, on signal of a RED FLAG, in due time, will stop at Westbury, Carl Place and Waverly.

Trains must not proceed at the time fixed, until twenty minutes have expired, if the Meeting Trains have not arrived. No Train is allowed or permitted to pass any place, or Station named as a place to stop, until the time is fully spent; and Trains *are required* to stop (*inert*) to set down or take up Passengers at the Platform, or place fixed. Passengers are therefore cautioned not to step on or off the Cars when in motion, and not to ride on the platform.

Trains will be run on Hempstead Branch to connect with the main line.

☞ *Freight and Extra Trains must not occupy the time fixed in the Table for Passenger Trains, but must observe said time, and keep out of the way.*

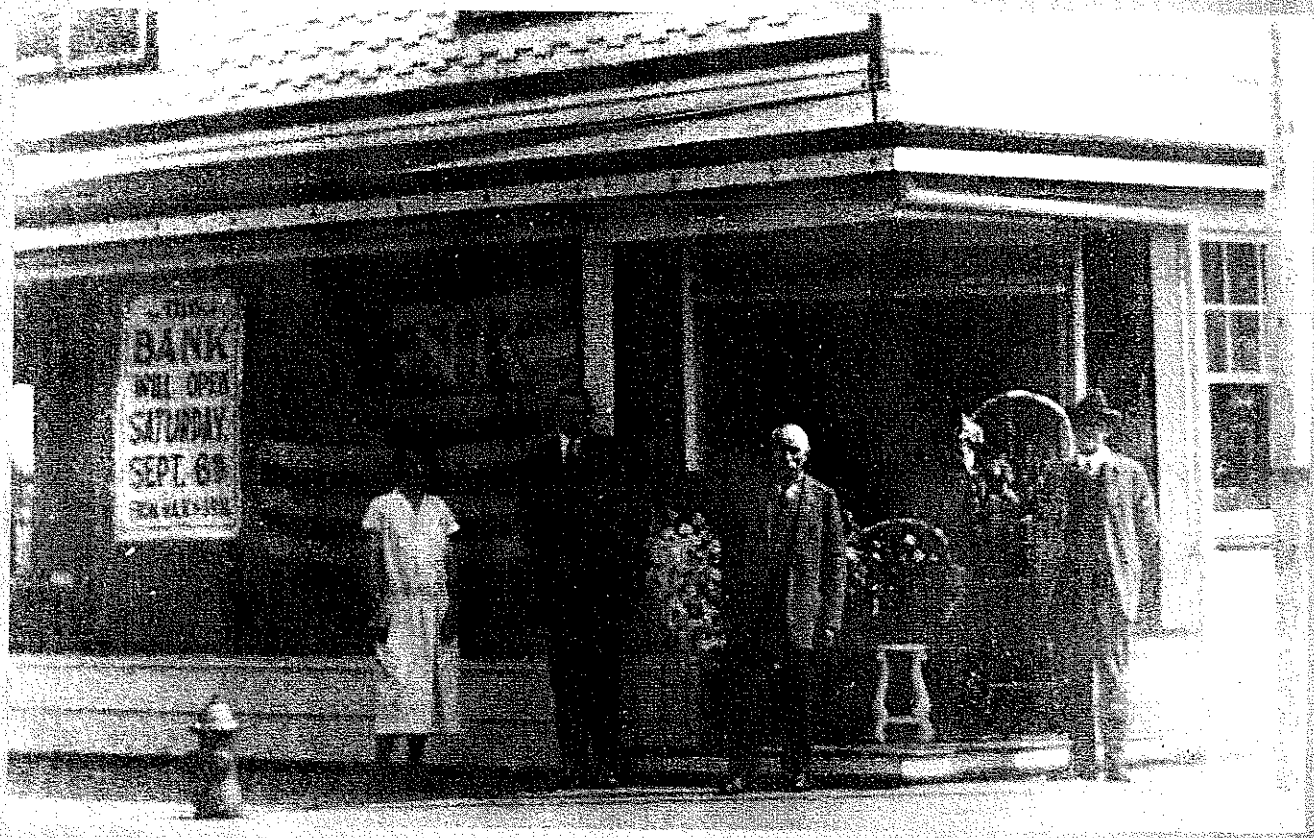
The Time kept at the Brooklyn Depot will govern the Time fixed in the above Table.

I. E. HAVILAND, President.

G. P. NESBITT AND CO., PRINTERS, COR. WALL AND WATER STREETS, N. Y.

1852 L.I.R.R. schedule

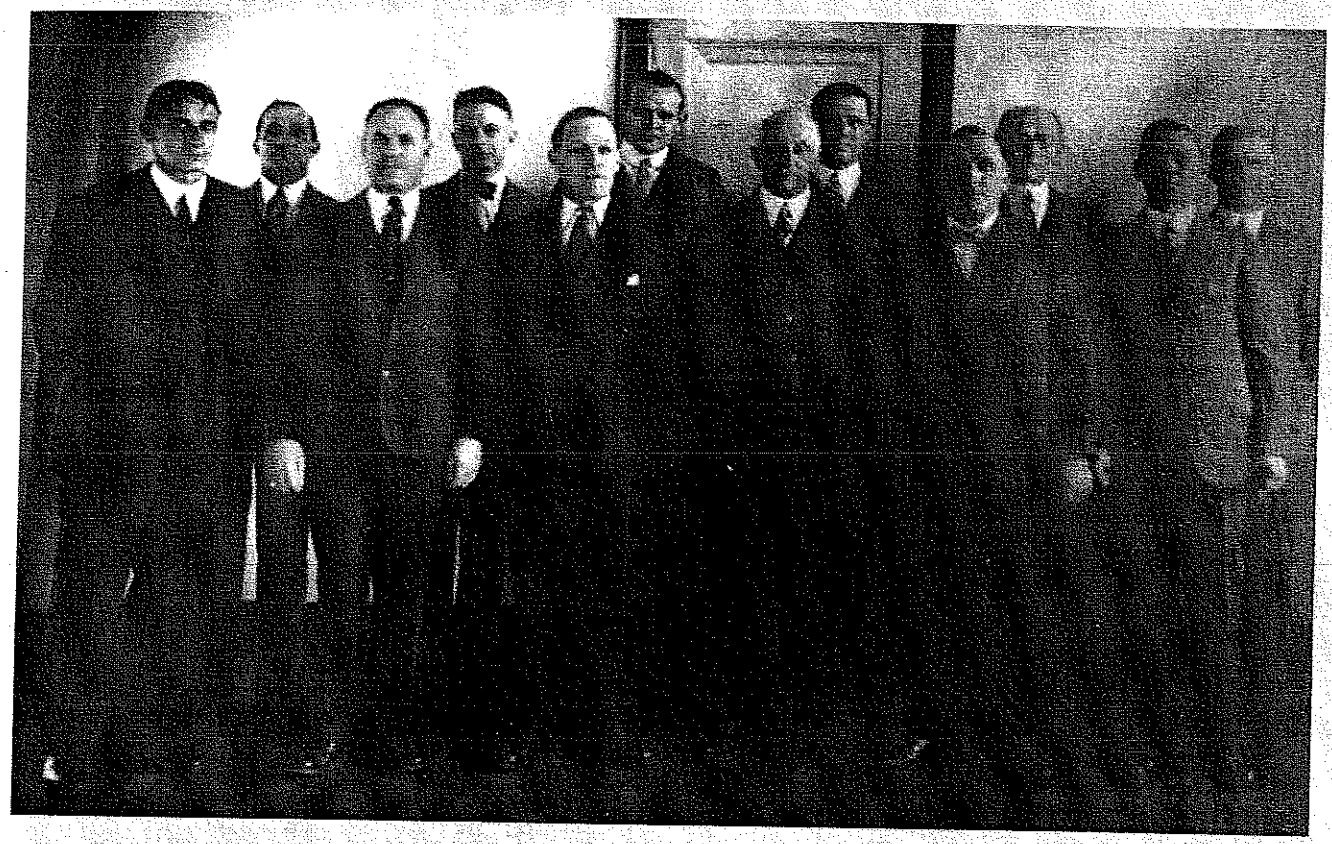
1852 - Long Island Railroad Schedule.



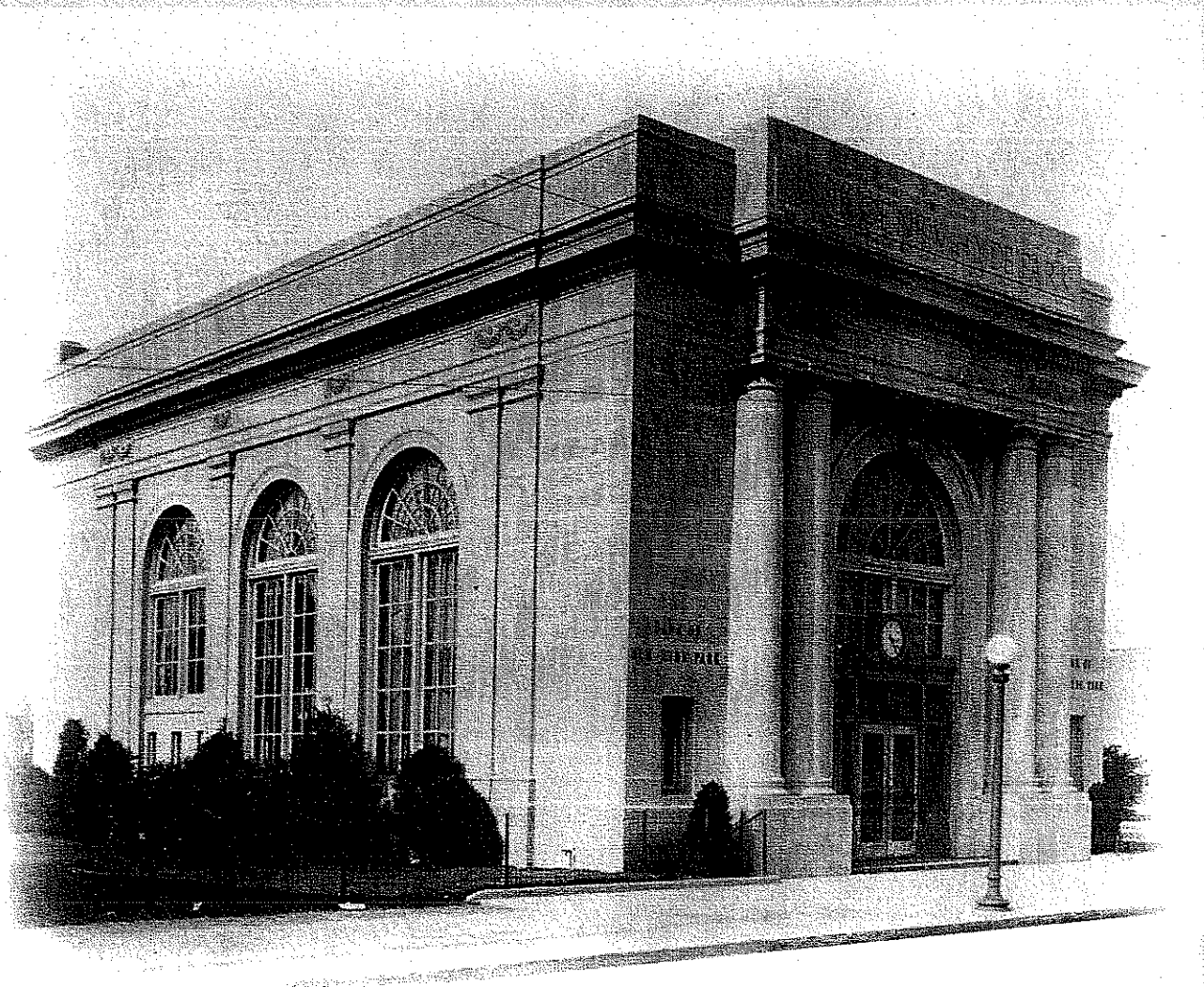
September 6th, 1923 - The Bank of New Hyde Park on opening day.
1300 Jericho Turnpike

30 - The Bank of New Hyde Park

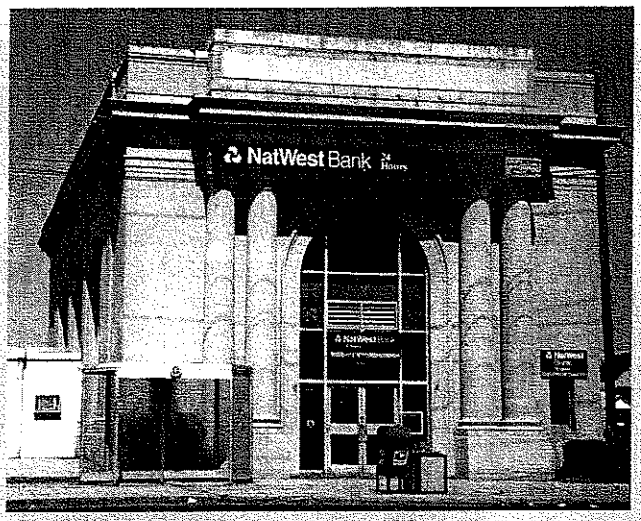
A Pictorial



1924 - Bank of New Hyde Park, Board of Directors (l-r): Leon Howell, Frank Franklin, Aaron Holman, George Smith, Chris Gottsch, William Kielmann, Philip Christ - President, Charles Weckerle, John Rhodes, John Kiefer, Martin Rhodes, Herman Baer.



1927 - Bank of New Hyde Park.



1996 - Fleet Bank.

Last Board of Directors for the New Hyde Park Bank (l-r): Front Row: Edward Miller, Marcus Christ - President, John Rhodes.
Back Row: Frank Franklyn, Len Hall, William Kielmann, Herman Baer, Charles Weckerle, Martin Rhodes and John Kiefer.
Photo: Lois Miller Daly

Board of Directors New Hyde Park Bank (l-r): Front Row: Martin Rhodes, Edward Miller President, John Kiefer and Charles Weckerle.
Back Row: Joseph Bellamente, Julius Ross, William Kielmann, Philip Christ and Harold Weidner.
Photo: Lois Miller Daly

1974 - Clam Bake 50th Anniversary of the Bank of New Hyde Park (now the Bank of North America). Honorable Mayor John De Santo and friends enjoying the food.

1974 - Clam Bake 50th Anniversary of the Bank of New Hyde Park (now the Bank of North America).
Second from left Hon. Judge Harold Weidner, middle - Joseph Bellemonte, second from right, former Bank President Edward Miller.

Oldest House.

1996 - Historic House: Built in the 1930's with a World's Fair symbol on the Chimney.

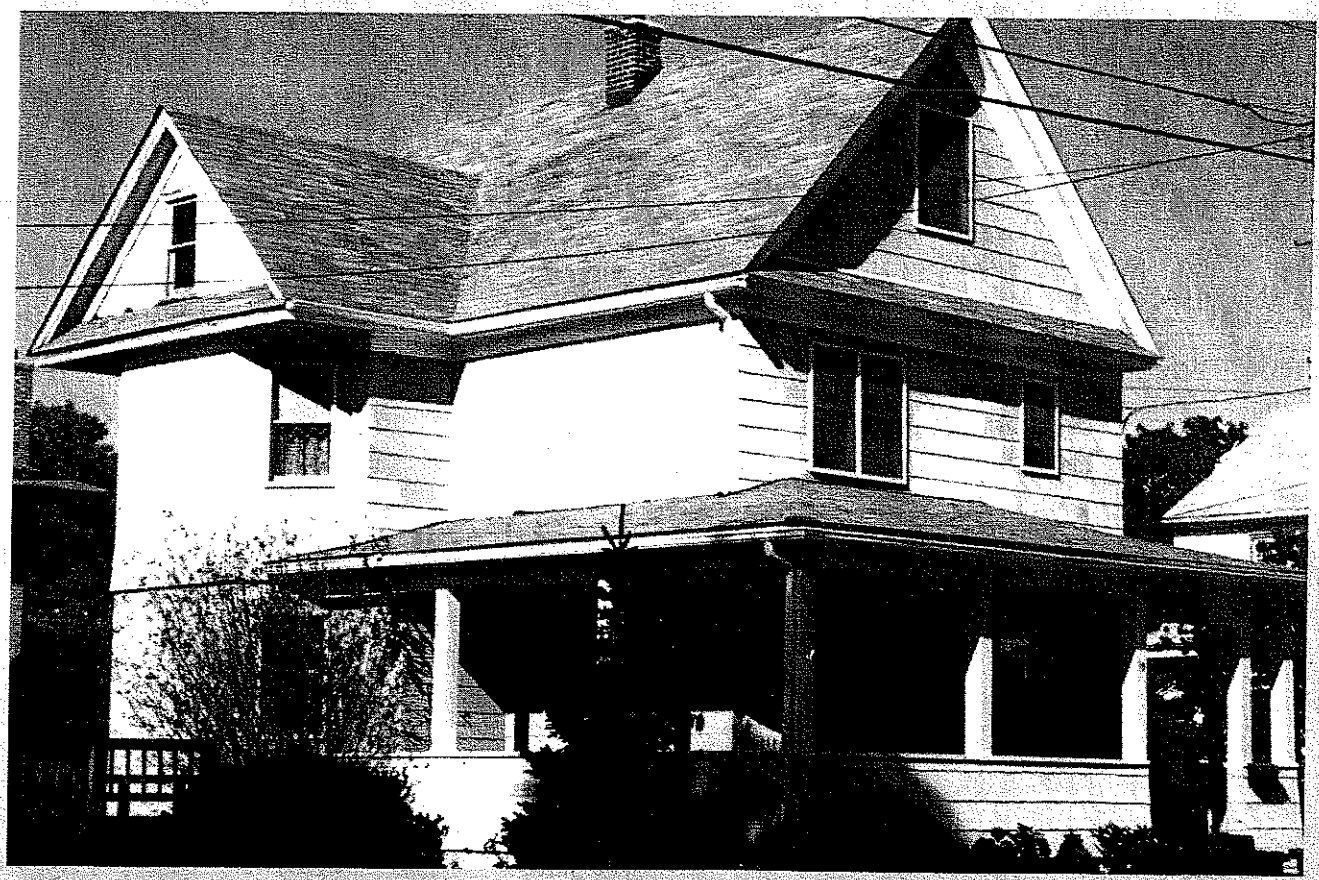
31 - Historic Houses

A Pictorial

1996 - Reconstructed Historic House.
Terrace Boulevard

1996 - Reconstructed Historic House.
Terrace Boulevard

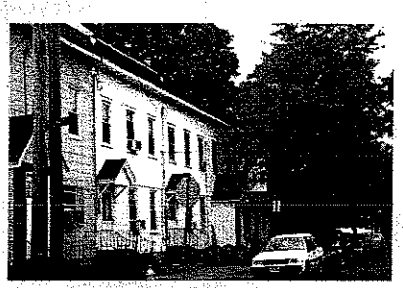
1996 - Historic House.
North 12th Street



1996 - Historic House.
1st Avenue

1996 - Historic House.
South 4th Street

1996 - Historic House.
South 8th Street

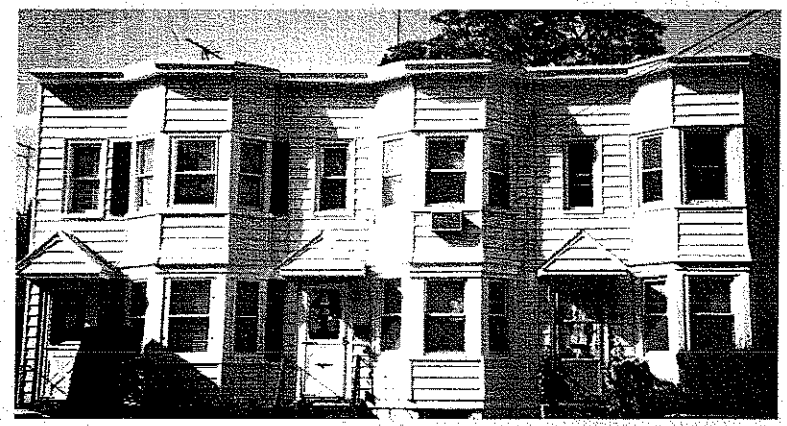


1996 - Historic House.
First Avenue

1996 - Historic House.
5th Avenue

1996 - Modern Home.
1st Avenue

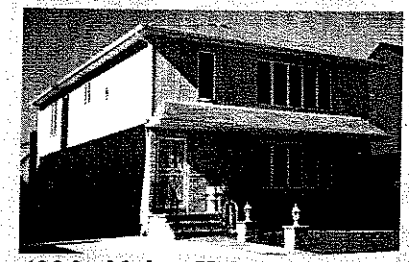
1996 - Historic House.
South 11th Street



1996 - Historic House.
South 11th Street

1996 - Historic House.
5th Avenue

1996 - Historic House.
South 4th Street



1996 - Modern Home.
North 10th Street

1996 - Modern Home.
North 10th Street

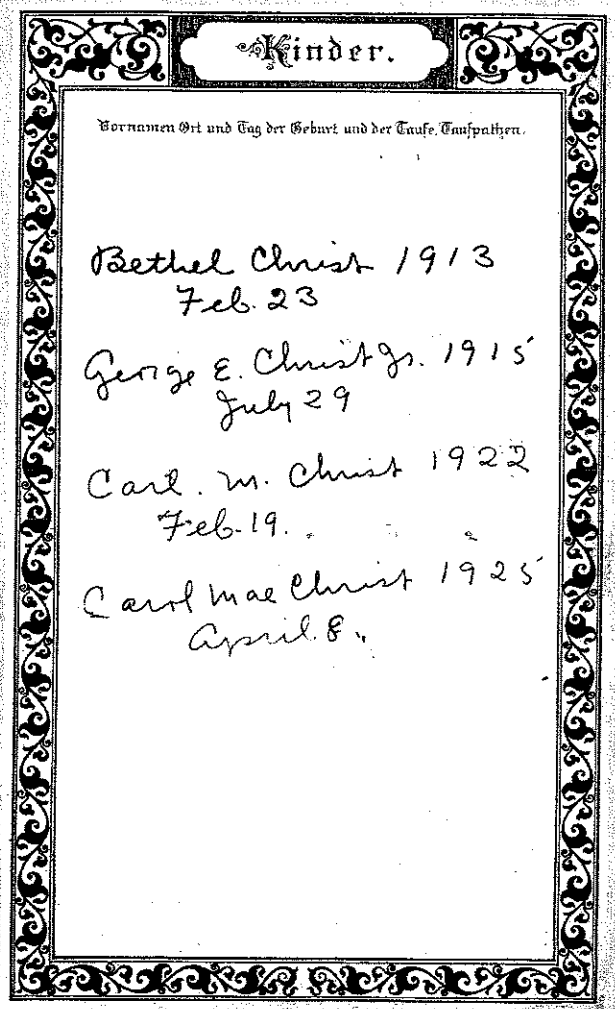
1996 - Modern Home.
North 10th Street

1996 - Historic House.
New Hyde Park Road

1996 - Modern Home.
1st Avenue

1996 - Modern Home.
1st Avenue

Familien-Chronik
Selig sind die GOTTES Wort hören u. bewahren.
Luc. 11, 28.
Seid aber Thäter des Worts und nicht Hörer allein.
Jac. 1, 22.
NEW YORK
Ernst Kaufmann
22 & 24 North William Street



Family Bible with Christ children birth dates.

Section 3 - George E. Christ

31 Biography

32 D-Day

33 Ardennes Battle of the Bulge

34 Epilogue

GEORGE
1886 - 1963
m.
EMMA MIRSCHEL
1891 - 1972

BETHEL
1913
m.
HENRY WIESER

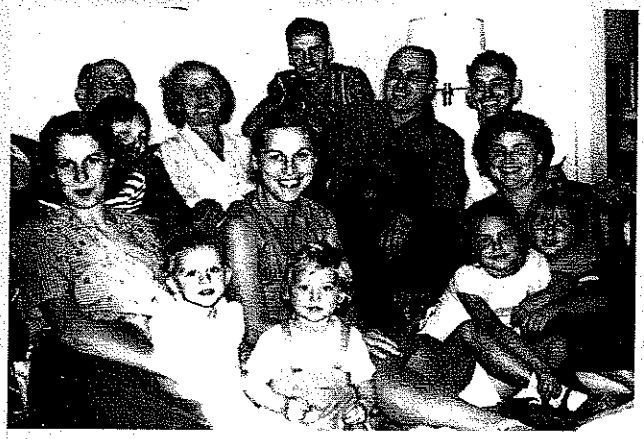
GEORGE 1915
m.
HELENE DRAXLER

CARL 1922
m.
EDNA WHALY

CAROL 1925
m.
OMAR FREEMAN

Caroline Mirschel - George's grandmother.

Above left and center: Emma V. Christ and George E. Christ.
Above right: Emma V. Christ.
Left: George E. Christ.



1953 - 1st Row (l-r): Edna Christ, Cheryl Christ, Pamela Wieser, Bethel Christ Wieser, Vicki Freeman, Cathy Christ, Carol Christ Freeman, Linda Wieser.
2nd Row: George E. Christ, Sr., Emma V. Christ, Henry Wieser, George E. Christ, Carl M. Christ.

Left: 1957 - Helene Christ, Linda Wieser, Bethel Christ Wieser, Edna Christ, Lauri Freeman and Carol Christ Freeman.
Right: Emma V. and George E. Christ, Sr. on 50th wedding anniversary.

Left: Sisters Carol Christ Freeman (left) and Bethel Christ Wieser (right) with George E. Christ, Sr.
Center: Carol Christ Freeman.
Right: Bethel Christ Wieser.

Left: Brother Carl M. Christ with Emma V. Christ and George E. Christ, Sr.
Right: Carl M. Christ.

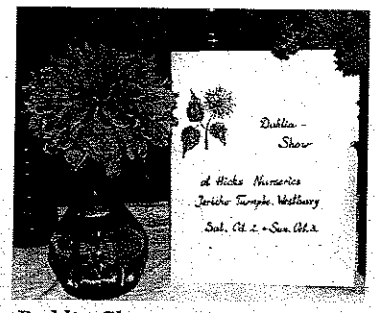
1967 - (l-r): Bethel Christ Wieser, George E. Christ, Emma V. Christ, Carl M. Christ, Carol Christ Freeman.

32 - Biography

If I could write like James Michener, my story would be written with great skill and wit and would captivate the attention of my readers. But what I lack in creativity, I make up in sincerity and honesty and the telling of growing up, learning, living and aging of one boy, in one place, over more than 80 years should be of interest.

My earliest memories are of my mother singing, my grandmother holding me and telling stories, and my older sister wheeling me in a carriage. There was life and excitement in my home. In addition to my grandmother, my Aunt Mae lived with us, aunts, uncles and cousins came to visit, and we in turn visited them.

Those were glorious days: the days of my childhood. New Hyde Park was a magic place: still very rural, not much developed, surrounded by farms with horses still in use and my father busy shoeing them. My mother cooked our meals on a wood stove, and we had kerosene lamps for light. Pigeons were my fathers hobby, but we raised chickens for food. Both my parents were gardeners, and I myself took early in life an interest in flowers and vegetables, and to this day, you can find me gardening. My favorite flowers are dahlias, and every year my garden is in bloom with them.



Dahlia Show

There were large trees in the village, and my friends from the neighborhood and I used to climb them. My favorite one was on Herkomer Street with a wide crown where one could sit comfortably. Right across the street we had two ponds and when they froze over in the winter, we had a very convenient ice skating place. I learned to roller skate and learned swimming in the Long Island Sound. I suppose, I learned a lot from the grown-ups, just by observing them, but my early years were only play. No preschool, no kindergarten. I always enjoyed all the games: Hide and Seek, tag, Johnny Ride the Pony and Ring a Livio. As I got older, I played tennis, baseball, and later football. But that was much later. First I had to start school. For six years I went to the old school which is now the Village Hall and then to the Road School from where I graduated. Sewanhaka High School was just being built, so I had to enroll in Hempstead High. The fare for the bus ride to school was ten cents a day. After a year at Hempstead High, I went for three years to Sewanhaka and graduated in 1933.

But let me get back to my childhood. The village was small and Jericho Turnpike was the place where the action was. My mother never turned a child away, all the friends were welcome and there were always apples in the house. In the summer we had homemade ice cream. Children used to lineup to help cranking the machine, because then they were treated to a dish of delicious frozen dessert. You can just imagine how popular my house was.

When I started Sunday School, our teacher was Mr. Peter A. Peterson (the Spanish War veteran). By that time there were already a few cars in New Hyde Park, and he owned a Model T Ford. After services, he took a few boys in his car and we visited the estates on the north shore, where he worked as a carpenter. He always included me and when we came to the estates, he shook hands with all the staff and called each of them either brother or sister. At first I was wondering, because I knew they were not his brothers and sisters. But he was a wise man and taught us to treat everyone with respect. Sometimes during the summer or fall, he would take us all the way to Shinnacock Canal. That's where I had my first sight and taste of beach plums.

Another person who took an interest in us was my friend Hap's (Harold Weidner) older brother Skyler. He attended Farmingdale College and took us out there to show us the cows and pigs and other various animals and to explain horticulture. In the village itself were still several artisans who worked at their trade, and I could watch them at their work.

Our earliest hobby was stamp collecting. We used to trade them and got all excited when we received a foreign stamp. We pasted them in a book, looked up the country and learned a great deal of geography without even knowing it. I never gave up that hobby, and to this day I work on my stamps almost daily. All my friends save stamps for me, and now after all those years my collection is quite extensive.

My other friend Charlie Cross lived on Herkomer Street and we two built ourselves a telegraph so we could communicate with each other. At that time people already had radios, and our signal interfered with their reception. One evening when I called Charlie, he rushed into the basement. But this time his father followed him, we were found out and that was the end of the telegraph. This didn't concern us too much, because pretty soon we had another hobby. The newspaper printed instructions on how to build a radio. All we needed was a crystal, some wire, earphones, and a round oatmeal container. We listened to the broadcasts, and what excitement and thrill it was when we could receive a station as far away as Pittsburgh KDKA and WEAF.

My favorite subjects in high school were history and printing. The original Arland Printing Shop was first located on the north side of Jericho Turnpike, where now Umberto is, and was owned by Sal Messina. Later he moved across the street to where now Baron's law offices are. Sal Messina had a very hard time during the depression, and the whole family lived right in the store. There was just a curtain separating the shop from the living quarters. While Sal was out soliciting business, his wife Millie ran the press and sometimes my friend Charlie Cross and I helped her out. In spite of all the hard times, Sal was cheerful. He was another one who was a role model for us. Evenings we went with him to places where there was a piano and Sal could really play. He also composed music and there are still some of his songs being published. I liked one of his Christmas songs, but my favorite was: "Im'a Lik'a Pizza Pie". After the war, Sal sold the business to Irving Eisenberg, and he moved it to the present location.

As a teenager, it was not only school and play, I also started work. At first it was just being a paper-boy delivering the Brooklyn Eagle. That was a steady job. I also delivered telegrams. We picked them up at the station and received 25 cents per delivery. When the weather was good, I was a caddie on the golf course. We boys had to stand at attention in a row and when the golfers arrived, the caddymaster picked a boy for them. At that time I was so impressed with the golfers. I thought they were the most important people. That job paid a dollar a round with an occasional 10 cent tip.

When my sister Carol was a toddler (there is a 10 year difference between us), I built a little go-cart to wheel her around. I always helped my father.

George and Carol in the go-cart.

As a teen, and even to this day, I take every job seriously and am determined to do the very best I can. I worked in my father's shop, did plumbing, delivered radiators, and when one of my father's houses needed a roof, I was the roofer.

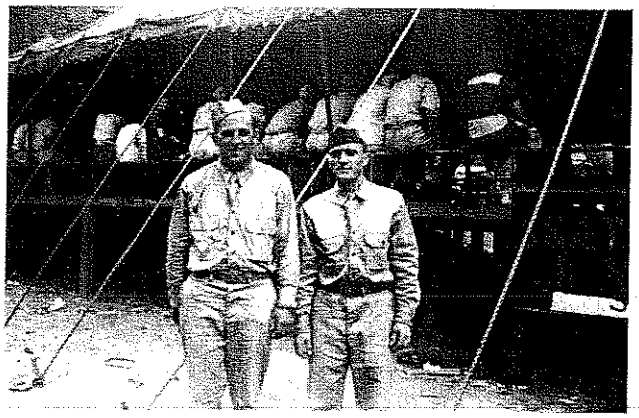
In 1933, I graduated high school and was now considered an adult. As such, I had to get a job. But it was the height of the depression and there were no jobs. A man by the name of Roland Hasard had a stamp business and as stamps were my love and hobby, he offered me a job as his manager. He bought the stamps wholesale, and we made up packets which we sold for 2-1/2 cents to Woolworth, Walgreen and Goldsmith Brothers. They in turn sold them for 5 cents a piece. That business was very labor intensive, and at times we had a dozen women employed. (One of them was Mrs. Edna Whaley who was to become my brother's mother-in-law.) The women worked at home and probably had their children helping them. But there was not much money in it. Not for the women, not for me, not for the owner, and the business failed.

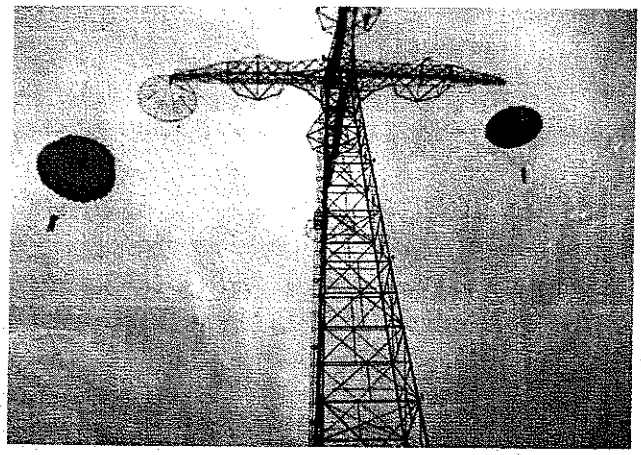
1936 - Turkey farm at the Baer residence.

All over the country people were struggling just to survive. We had enough food and my mother came into an inheritance, but my father's business did poorly. I thought of selling through the mail. I bought a small printing press and setup a small shop on 1 North 12th Street. I printed circulars but I was not successful. I even started to raise turkeys together with Milton Baer on his property. The price of fowl dropped, and that killed the turkey business.

Then came a break. We still had farms in New Hyde Park and the biggest land owner here was Fred Schumacher. He irrigated his farms and hired us. He was farming on New Hyde Park Road, Herrick's Road, Union Turnpike, Lake Success, Garden City Park, Roslyn, and Muttontown. In addition, he owned apartment houses in Hempstead. I did all the plumbing work, and later my brother Carl joined me. The farms were in operation till late 1950. When property became too expensive to be used just for farming, he sold out, but he donated parcels to churches and even to the city of New York.

On June 16, 1941, I was inducted into the army and life as I knew it came to and end. I entered the service together with my friend Charlie Cross, but we were separated and my basic training was at Camp Croft in South Carolina. Many found the training a hardship, but I did not fight the army. With all that physical labor I performed in the preceding years, I was strong and my body fit and healthy and even after bootcamp, I joined the recruits in their exercises. I was sent to Fort Benning, Georgia, for parachute training and after that to communication school. The completion of the course earned me stripes, and in time, I became staff sergeant. To this day I think that's the best rank to have. By 1942, war was imminent, and I was sent to Carolina and Tennessee for maneuvers and to Camp McKall for final training before being send overseas. We embarked the liberty ship James Parker and left from Staten Island in January 1944 for Belfast, Ireland. Early spring we were in Nottingham, England.





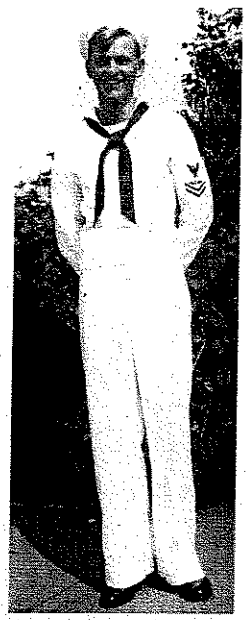
Above: Camp Croft, Spartenberg, SC, Skating Rink George E. Christ and Martin Benninger.
Below: Parachute Training at Fort Benning, Georgia.
Right: Omar Freeman - Started Body & Fender Business at 1 North 12th Street after the war.

D - Day, June 6, 1944

I've described my experience in a separate article. I only want to mention that during all the months I was a combat soldier, I never saw a cameraman or a war correspondent. The photo of my outfit on Hill 30 was taken by a Lieutenant who had a camera with him.

In 1945, we were at Chartes, France, when the war ended. From there we were sent to Frankfurt, Germany and the 508 was declared Eisenhower's Honor Guard. It was a transition to civilian life. We had food, clothing and most of all, shelter. There was entertainment and laundry service. Henry Wieser, my brother-in-law, was also stationed in Germany. He had a car and when he visited me we went sight-seeing. After six months in Germany, I came home November 1945.

I was a soldier from June 16, 1941 to November 10, 1945. I spent 1 year, 10 months and 8 days overseas (168 days as a combat soldier). There were over 2,000 paratroopers from my outfit jumping on D-Day. Less than one third survived.



I was back home in 1946. A civilian again and working in my father's business. I first joined the American Legion and later the Veterans of Foreign Wars and became a commander in both organizations. It was not my desire to make any waves, but something happened and I entered politics. My brother-in-law, Omar Freeman, spent the war years in the navy and when he came home, he wanted to start a body and fender business. I had property on 1 North 12th

Street and agreed to build him a 20' x 30' garage. I submitted plans to the village and got the permit. But then the building inspector stopped me. I was within the Zoning Law and insisted on my rights. I was angry. We served our country and now they wanted to prevent us from making a living. I fought them and they had to let me build and let Omar run his business. But I was real mad! I was so angry and didn't want those men sitting there deciding our fate. I organized the Independent Party, ran for Trustee, and won. I achieved my goal and did not run for a second term, though I served on different boards. There was another score to be settled. The New Hyde Park leadership of the Republican Party supported the village against me. So I ran against the incumbent for the position of Committeeman. I won and held the job until a few years ago.

In 1953, on a paperdrive for the American Legion, I saw a girl on South 14th Street. She was a teacher and a recent arrival from Europe. With the help of her neighbor, Andrew Wulforst, I met her and we were married in 1955. Now my life entered a new phase. As I am patriotic, I wanted to pay my respect to the founding fathers, so I took my bride to Washington, DC on our honeymoon. We first lived in my mother's apartment house and moved in 1963 to our present residence.

The new administration in the village under Mayors Gill, Bogart and Tackenberg encouraged all kinds of community activities. I joined the Cultural Commission, organized all the growers in New Hyde Park, and for 10 years, while I was the Chairman, we had great fun at our annual flower and vegetable shows.

Helen Draxler Wed To George Christ Jr.

Helen Draxler, daughter of Mrs. Luise Draxler of Brooklyn was married Sunday, December 18th to George E. Christ, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. George E. Christ, Sr. of New Hyde Park.

The wedding took place in the First Reformed Church of New Hyde Park at 3:00 P.M. with the Reverend Charles T. Botkin officiating.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her uncle Vincent Garcia of New Hyde Park, was dressed in ivory satin and attendants dressed in pink velveteen were Mrs. Andrew Wulforst, Matron of Honor and flower girls, Pamela Wieser of Garden City and Andrea Wulforst of New Hyde Park.

Carl Christ served as best man for his brother. Ushers were Richard Draxler, brother of the bride and Charles Cross of Huntington.

Mrs. Christ is a graduate of Vienna University and also attended Adelphi College. Her husband is the well known former Village Trustee of New Hyde Park.

A reception was held following the wedding at the Nassau Inn.

George and Helene Christ

Normandy: Hill 30, June 10, 1944
Communication Section: Headquarters Company 2nd BN. 508 Parachute Inf. Reg. 82nd Airborne Division.
Back Row: Gulbranson, Wilkins, Giblin, Dickey, Kouju, Micker, Biagone, Brown
Front Row: Christ, Comacho, Sanders, McGee, Maygers, Lakes, Taylor, Frenchman.
Note the bulky radio (left of picture).

33 - D-Day

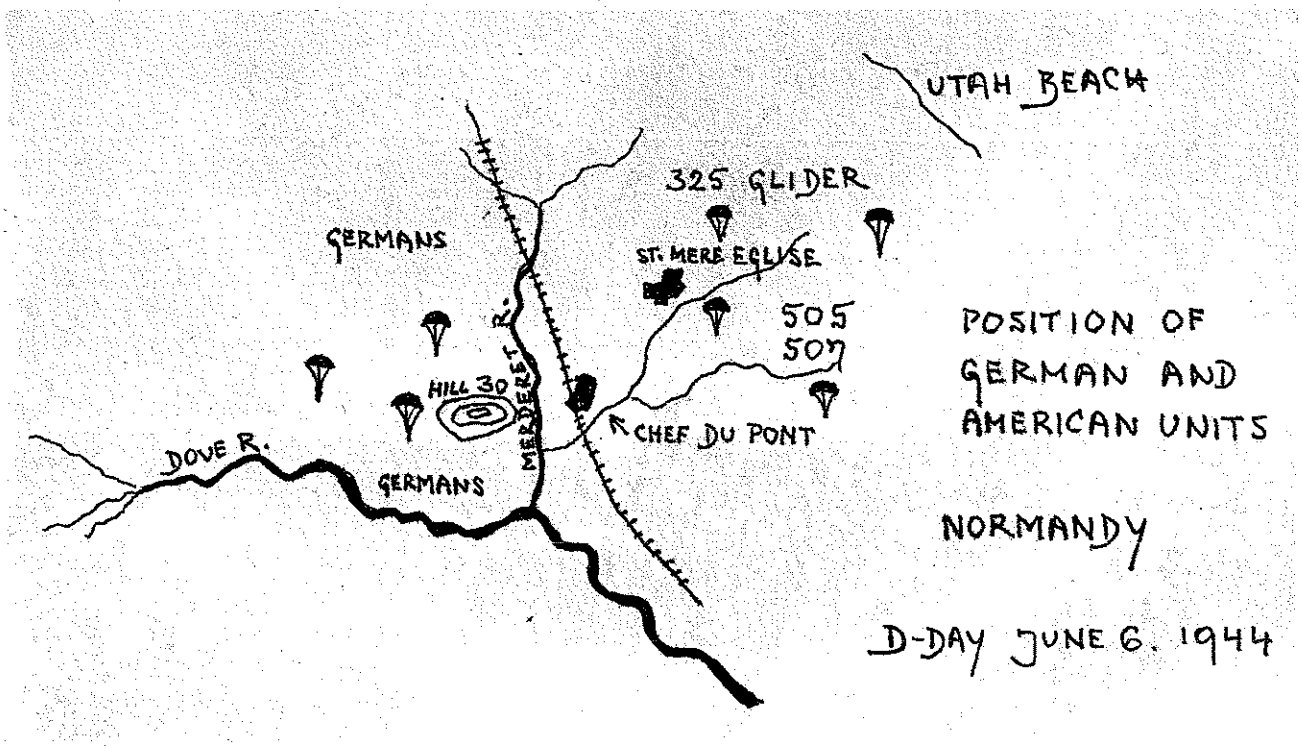
D Day, June 6, 1944
One Soldier's Experience

It was dark. The plane was crossing the Channel, flying toward France. The men in my platoon, with their faces blackened, were trying to doze, get some rest. It has been a long day, and we were about to experience the war firsthand.

Looking out the window, I could see the other planes and was reflecting on my life in the military and all that lead up to this point. I was inducted into the Army June 16, 1941, went to basic, jump school and infantry school and was trained as a radio operator. I was a staff sergeant and part of the cadre to train new recruits, who were to form the "508th Parachute Infantry Regiment."

In England we were stationed in Nottingham, but about a week before the invasion, we were moved to Salty Air Force Base. Of course at the time I did not know the place, as the English had removed all signs. The reason: should a German infiltrate, he would not know the location. That week was the best army experience we ever had. Nobody bothered us. There was gourmet food at all meals, entertainment every night and in between meals, we exercised, cleaned our weapons and packed and repacked the equipment.

Some of the equipment was packed in bundles to be dropped separately, but one can hardly believe how much we had to carry on our own person. Our suits and even our boots were processed to resist gas. The trousers had large patch pockets to store ammunition. We had among other things, a hand grenade, weapons, K Rations and not only one but two parachutes, and even a Mae West Life Preserver. All that was so heavy, that we needed help to board the plane.



As I looked out the window, I could see the other planes, but was oblivious to the big fleet in the Channel ready for the invasion. On approaching France, we ran into a cloud cover and the planes became separated. As our aircraft approached the drop zone, the sky cleared and we jumped. Although there was enemy fire, my jump went smoothly and I landed all intact. But I was all alone. The men I felt responsible for, were nowhere to be seen. There were hedgerows bordering the fields, which was a surprise as they were not shown on the maps and we were not briefed about them.

I had to orient myself. There I was: the communication chief for the whole 2nd battalion, being all by myself and not having a radio. The radios were packed in the equipment bundles, but there were no bundles to be seen anywhere.

The first thing I met was a cow. We just ignored each other and I proceeded to the next field. It was a moonlit night and I could see the tall poles, which were an anti airborne obstacle, reaching for the sky. I encountered two soldiers crying, both hurt during the jump. One could not see and the other was hit in the groin. They were from the 507 Parachute Infantry Regiment. I calmed them down, urged them to be quiet, so not to attract the Germans and administered to both morphine shots. We all carried the drug in our special medical pack.

After promising them to send the medics, I moved on. The purpose of the hedgerows was to keep the cows pent up, but each field had two diagonal openings, secured with a bar, and one could easily enter and leave. At the next field there was a shot down glider and the pilot, who had survived the hit. He was to have landed at Omaha Beach and smooth a landing strip with a small bulldozer he carried in the glider, and then return to England.

I told him "No way can you get back to England." The strangest thing about him was that he had no weapon. That really puzzled me, but now we were two, and I assured him we would get weapons as soon as we found some of the bundles. I also was very anxious to find my own men and, most important, to find out where we were. So we set forth, the pilot and I, in search of the army. It must have been quite a sight. I so heavily loaded down, although

Tabulation of Normandy Invasion

June 6 - July 12

Committed Strength	2,055
Killed in Action	321
Missing in Action	458
Strength on July 15	918
Germans Captured	554*
Vehicles Captured	75*
Tanks Destroyed	20*
Field Pieces Captured (75mm or over)	8*
Ground Gained (This figure takes into account only the gains made forward by elements of the regiment with no friendly troops to the front)	30 Miles

*Minimum figures.

Staff Sergeant George E. Christ, Headquarters Company 2nd Battalion 508th Parachute I.R. 82nd Airborne Division received the following medals and citations:

Bronze Star
Combat Infantry Badge
French Croix de Guerre
Belgian Fourragere
Bronze Arrow Head
Four Battle Stars
Presidential Citation
Orange Lanyard of the Netherlands

Paratrooper: 508th Parachute Inf. Regiment

minus the chutes, and the pilot with not even a gun. After several minutes we came upon 15 men, an officer amongst them. They were from different units and nobody knew what to do, or where to go. So we just crossed the fields, till we reached a road. By now it was about 4 am and it started to get light as we were on double summertime.

More soldiers came through the hedgerows, and we kept on moving up the road, till we encountered enemy fire. So we turned around and went back. After awhile we again met enemy fire. So we just went back to where we came from. We did that several times. We were just lost and disorganized. But I assume the Germans had the same problem or I would not be around to tell the story.

Our numbers were growing, as more and more soldiers came through the fields and finally there was one with a radio. Col. Shanley was contacted, and we were ordered to Hill 30. By the time we reached the position it was dark and we were exhausted. It was a day, a night, a second day and now another night, and I for one just fell asleep. So did the others and the Germans probably also, because if there was any enemy fire, I for one was unaware of it.

D-Day Plus One, June 7

I have to continue with the story as our mission was not completed yet. At Hill 30, I at last met up with some of the men of my own platoon. I still had the glider pilot with me, who eventually returned to England. But many familiar faces were missing. There was a 17 year old one from Tennessee by the name of Alton Agee who was to be attached to the Battalion commander. He never made it, and I could never find out what happened to him.

There is no record, and he might have landed in the river and drowned. His place was taken by another 17 year old baby face: Bill Biagione, who was more fortunate, is alive and well, living in Connecticut and whom I meet each year at our reunion.

On Hill 30, Col. Shanley had his hands full trying to organize us, as we were from all different regiments. It was Lt. Pollette who activated combat patrols and set up road blocks at various points leading to Hill 30 and preventing the Germans from crossing the bridge over the Merderet River at Chef Du Pont. Of course we also were prevented from crossing the bridge. We found some of the bundles, but unfortunately none contained heavy weapons, rations or medical supplies.

We were isolated, Germans to the north and the south and, to the east, the Merderet River separated us from the main body of the 82nd Airborne Division. Soon we had casualties. The artillery support we were supposed to get, never came. Our wounded needed medical supplies and most importantly blood. Cpl. David Giblin volunteered, stripped, swam across the Merderet and was successful returning with the blood plasma. For this heroic action, he received the silver star. Another soldier shot a German in a vehicle, saw he was wearing a fancy hat and took it. On looking inside he found the label with the owner's name. It was a German General.

We stayed on Hill 30 until June 10, when finally the 90th Division passed in front of us. Our own regimental supply brought in new equipment and for the first time since England the 508 Parachute Infantry Regimental Combat Team was assembled.

There are numerous books about D Day and the battle on Hill 30 is well documented. I just want to recount the events where I was not a part of a unit. In Normandy, I spent 33 days in combat. Then we were brought back to England, reorganized and made ready to jump again which turned out to be in Holland. All in all I spent 168 days in combat.

(Note: This account of D-Day was printed in the Friday, June 1994 issue of *Discovery*.)

PUBLICITY-NEWS

OFFICIAL PAPER of Incorporated Village of New Hyde Park and Union Free School District No. 5

"A Paper Dedicated to the Welfare of the Community"

VOL. 15 NO. 32 FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 1944 THREE CENTS

Geo. E. Christ, Hero Of D Day, Is Member Of Normandy Paratroopers

Staff Sergeant George E. Christ Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. George E. Christ of 1310 Jericho turnpike, New Hyde Park, a paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne Division in Normandy, fought with his comrades for a period of 33 days without relief in Normandy, and, along with his regiment, has been cited for excellent work and extreme bravery.

He and soldiers of his parachute infantry regiment dropped over a wide area on D-day and were unable to assemble as a tactical unit until the fourth day of the invasion. Notwithstanding the regiment were able to play a brilliant role in carrying out the mission of the airborne troops, which was to prevent the Germans from interfering with the ground assault force until the beach landings had been accomplished. To achieve this the 82nd captured the town of St. Mere Eglise and fought for, and held, bridges over two rivers, the Merderet at La Fiere and at Chef du Pont L'Abbe and at Beuzeville la Bastille.

A large pocket of Allied resistance within enemy lines was set up. During the campaign it stretched from St. Mere, on the east, to St. Sauveur le Vicomte on the west, and from La Ham, on the north, almost to La Haye de Puits on the south.

This was accomplished in 33 days of action, without relief and without replacements. Every mission was accomplished. No ground gained was ever relinquished. For nearly 34 hours, or until noon of the day after D-Day, the paratroops were without contact with friendly forces. And though heavy casualties were sustained throughout the campaign, nothing stopped the troops for long.

The paratroopers of this regiment were dropped in several groups and at first these groups fell in with other units of the division rather than their own. It was not until four days after D-Day that the regiment assembled as a tactical unit. Before this, however, they had struck terrific blows.

With other units of the division they forced the enemy west of the Merderet River at the start. Another element joined in the heavy fighting at Chef du Pont, finally contacting an isolated battalion and establishing a bridgehead on the west bank of the Merderet opposite Chef du Pont. Other elements went south to clear out Carquebut; crossed the river at La Fierre and assaulted Guetteville. The latter action was assisted by a naval barrage from the sea arranged by a naval liaison officer with the regiment.

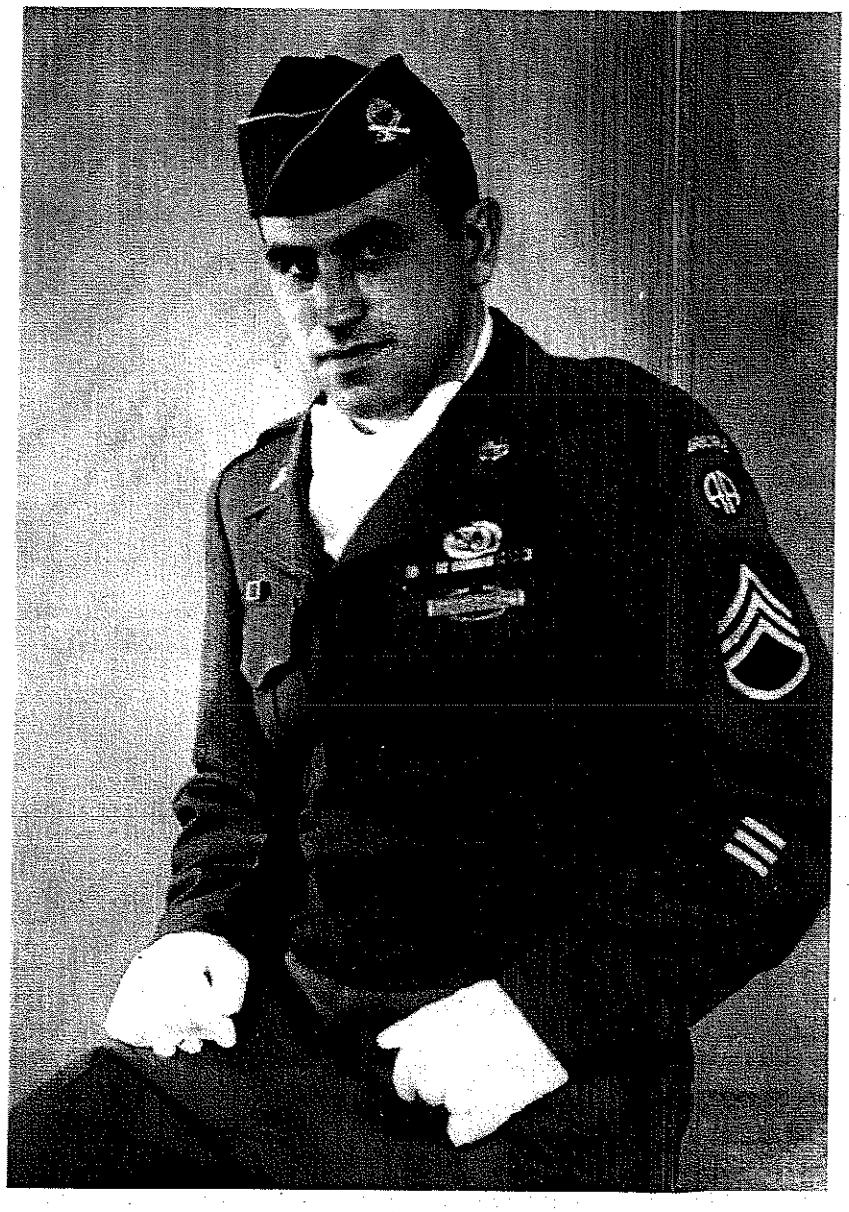
After being pulled together as a unit, the regiment jumped off for the attack on Beuzeville la Bastille. After crossing the Douve, it swept on through the Cretteville-Baupte area. During this drive many enemy tanks were encountered and many were knocked out. Trucks moved the regiment to Pont lAbbe for the general attack toward St. Sauveur. The regiment followed another of the division, driving the enemy west, north and south.

Participating in the drive on Pretot, a squad encountered a Mark IV tank 600 yards north of the town and succeeded in knocking it out with a hand-thrown British grenade. The regiment took up a defensive position at Vindefontaine before joining in the drive toward La Haye de Puits. Heavy fighting was experienced in the Bois de Limors, and one element which eventually took "Hill 95" sustained heavy casualties.

Colonel Roy E. Lindquist of Pittsfield, Me., the commanding officer, made a lucky guess which kept the enemy force on this hill from being greater than it was. He often directed the artillery fire, according to an artillery officer, on the theory of catching the Germans doing what he would have done under similar circumstances. Accordingly, he swept an orchard with fire. Later a prisoner told that a German force preparing for an assautl on "Hill 95" had been virtually wiped out by this hit.

The hard training, incomparable self-reliance and bravado of all of the men added another chapter to the history of the 82nd Division.

FRANCIS L. CASEY HEADS DRAFT BOARD 725.



Staff Sergeant George E. Christ, Frankfurt Germany, 1945.
Member of 508 PIR, which was Eisenhower's Honor Guard.

34 - Ardennes, Battle of the Bulge

In December 1944, we were in Sissonne, France and were to be outfitted for the winter. We were looking forward to some relaxing time, and on the night of December 17th I was at a movie. By the middle of the feature, the lights came on and we were ordered back to the barracks. The Germans had penetrated our line in Belgium at the Ardennes, and we were to be sent to battle. All night long we were issued weapons, a coat and a raincoat, rubberized boots, but no socks. There was great activity, we hardly got any sleep and by morning we boarded trucks and were driven to Werbomont. That night we slept in some barns.

On December 19th, we marched south past Garonne to some hills and reached Thier-Du-Mount Ridge on December 20th. We were there to relieve the surrounded elements of the 7th Armored, the 28th, and the 106th Infantry Divisions.

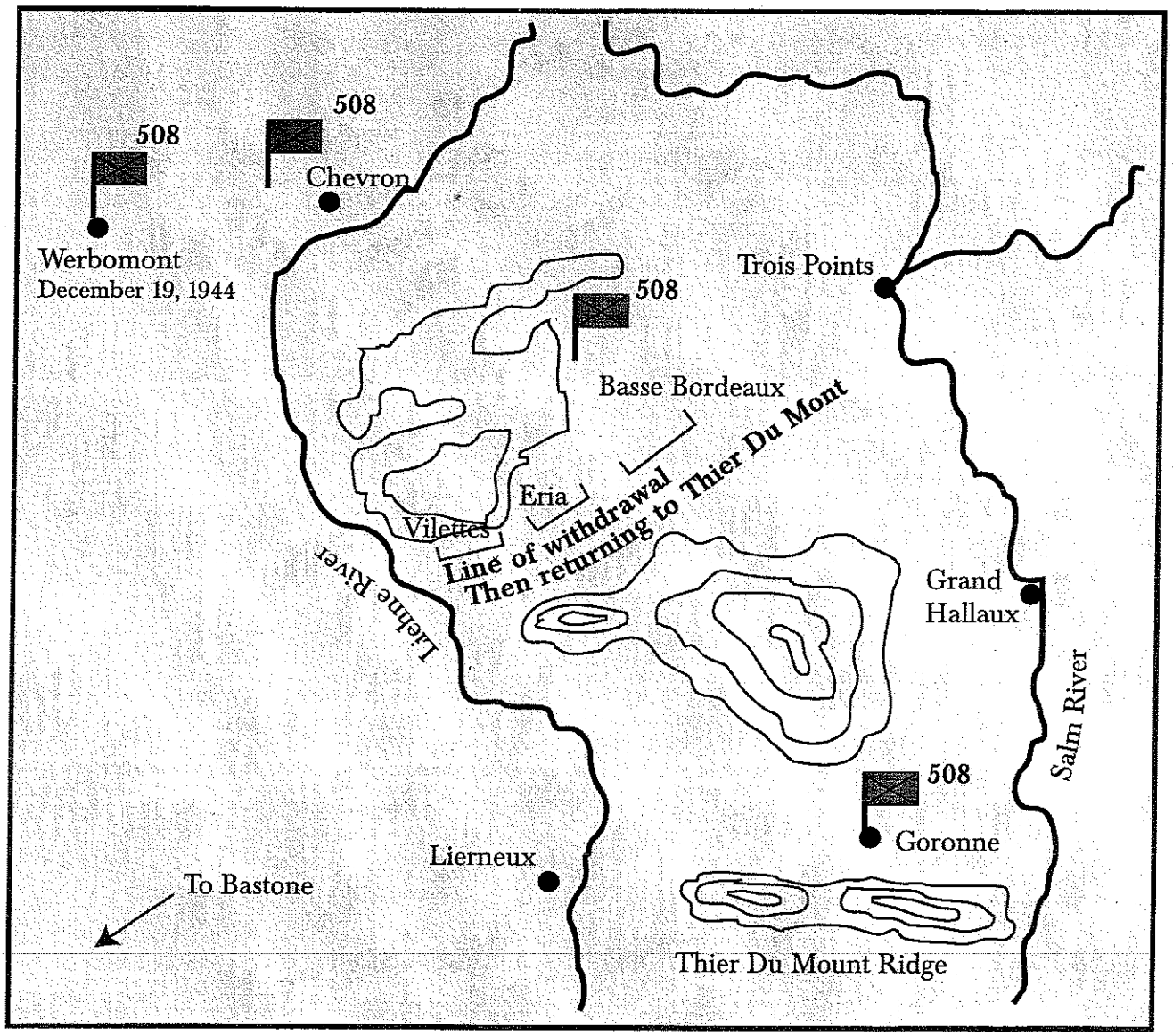
On the march out to the ridge, we made contact with the 106th Division Headquarters, which was about 10 miles from the combat troops. They looked very impressive; just fresh from the states, very elegant, with the newest equipment.

From December 20th till December 24th, our outfit was on the ridge, while the 7th, 106th, and 28th were withdrawing from their pocket position, crossing the bridge and moving back. All the while, we had no contact with the Germans until on December 24th we came under artillery fire. Meanwhile, we had blown the bridge and the Germans were busy building another one. They kept us away with their heavy artillery.

I was in charge of the communication equipment and to keep it safe. Col. Holmes ordered me to move back along with everybody else about 8 miles to Basse-Bodeux-Erria-Villettes. At that time the communication equipment was bulky and heavy, so Col. Holmes got me a jeep with a driver who was supposed to know the road to our destination. But, instead of driving across the fields, which would have been much safer, he took the road close to the German lines. All around us there was that whistling and the sharp bangs as the shells hit the ground. I didn't think we would ever make it, but again I was fortunate to come through in one piece.

My luck held all through the war. That night I slept in a barn, but the next night, for reasons I don't remember, I was in the open and the barn burnt down. Maybe some soldiers were smoking and set the hay on fire. We were ready to go forward and attack the Germans, but at that time we were under the command of Gen. Montgomery. He tried to establish a defensive line. We stayed there till January 7th, when we moved again to the Thier-Du-Mount Ridge to attack the Germans.

The 3rd Battalion led the attack, followed by us, the 2nd Battalion. All the while we were under mortar fire and the 3rd Battalion had many casualties. There were dead soldiers all over the field and the ones who survived their wounds, succumbed to the weather and froze. My outfit made it to the ridge, and we took position. Meanwhile the quartermaster followed with the supplies. My jeep carried not only the communication equipment, but to the front of the jeep, we had tied a stove, a smoke pipe, even



Battle of the Bulge.
Map: 508 Parachute Infantry Regiment: Archives.

a generator and my blankets and the shelter half. Some other jeeps had frying pans and other cooking gear tied to them. This must have been some sight! As we were short of ammunition on the ridge, I went down and all night long I carried the ammunition up to the soldiers. The next night I went to the jeep, took maybe 5 or 6 blankets plus my shelter half, wrapped myself into all those blankets covered with the shelter half and went to sleep. The next morning I heard someone calling my name and when I removed all the covers, I was surprised to find everything covered with snow. That day we were moved back. So I left the blankets, the shelter half and even some other equipment and moved on. After all, one wants to travel light and to the American Army, some blankets and tents are very expendable. For the rest of the winter, we were at the Ardennes and my biggest battle was with the weather.

The Ardennes! The Battle of the Bulge!

Those were the darkest days of my entire life. It was cold, so very cold and we were freezing in below zero temperatures. Most of the time we were outdoors and our clothing was not adequate. I kept wondering if I survived the bullets, only to be killed by the elements.

Christmas 1996: George E. Christ, Helene Christ and nieces Lauri Criqui and Vicki Bomberger (George Sr. and Emma Christ granddaughters).

35 - Epilogue

This is my story!

I consider myself blessed to have been born in this country and had for my parents two remarkable people. From my father, I inherited endurance, the capacity to work long and to adjust to new conditions. From my mother, I inherited enthusiasm, love of life and nature, and that positive outlook never left me. When I was born, the century was still new. Now we are reaching the end. Much has changed, and New Hyde Park is bigger with a population of great ethnic variety. But the community spirit still lives on. Long before President Kennedy asked the individual to do something for their country, we in New Hyde Park reached out to our neighbors, helped the disadvantaged and knew if we just made our village a better place, other villages followed, we'd have a great country.

This is the end of my story and the end of my book. Having lived already for over 80 years, my life will be ending too. But New Hyde Park, my village, will go on and be prosperous and beautiful.

George E. Christ
June 1997

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Wulforst, Andrew - New Hyde Park, NY
Weidner, Harold E. - New Hyde Park, NY

New Hyde Park Funeral Home - New Hyde Park, NY
Holy Rood R.C. Cemetery - Westbury, NY
Greenfield Cemetery - Hempstead, NY
Memorial Cemetery - Laurel Hollow, NY
St. Boniface R.C. Cemetery - Elmont, NY
Presbyterian Cemetery - Elmont, NY

Emma V. Christ Scrap Book
Mae Christ Leroux Scrap Book

All family trees with the exception of the Kiefer family tree were prepared by Helene Christ.

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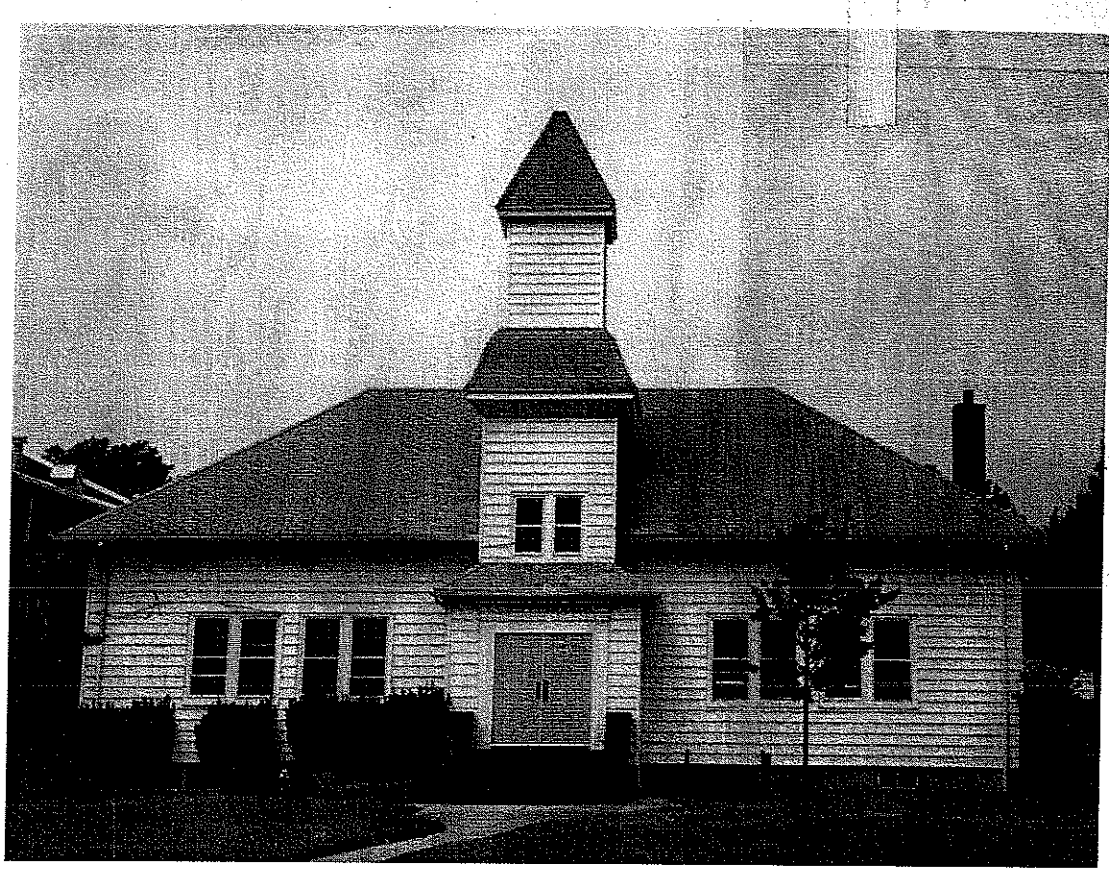
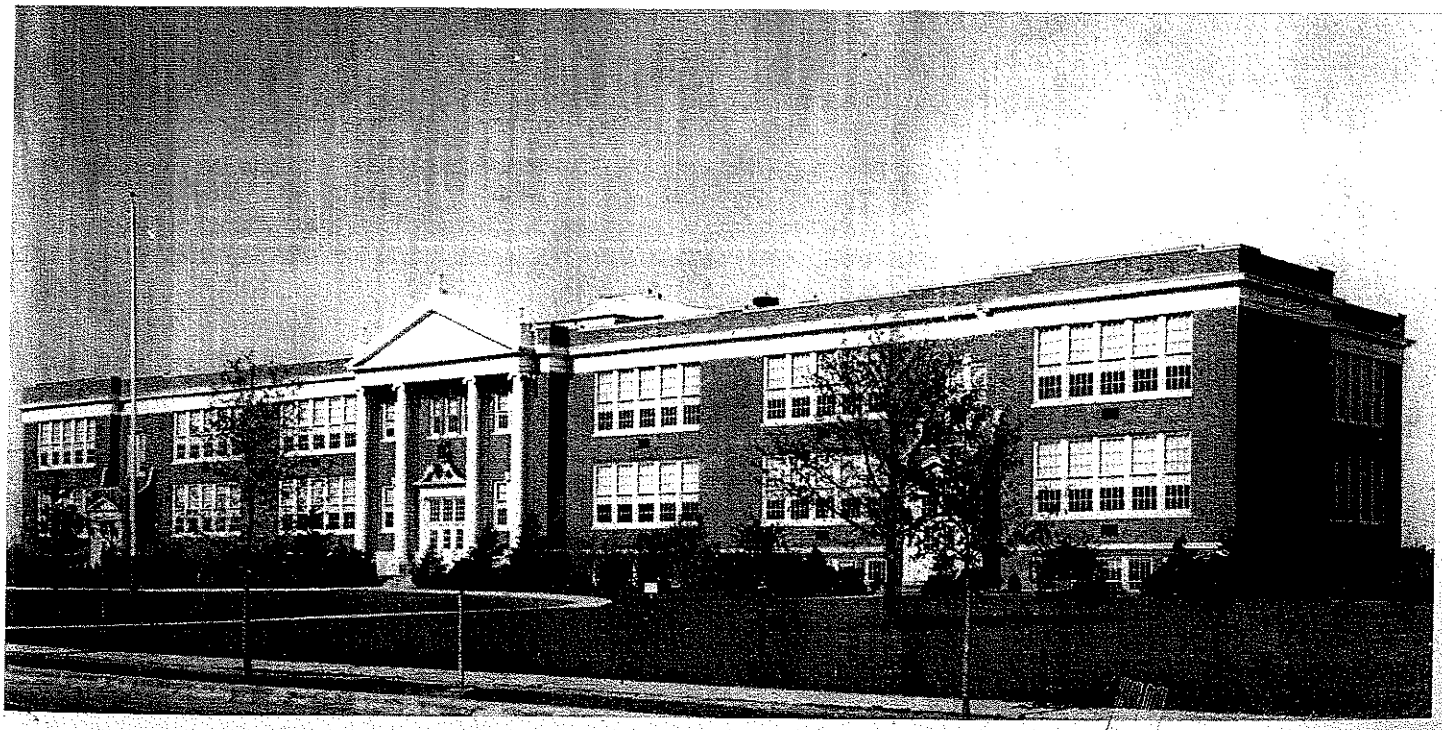
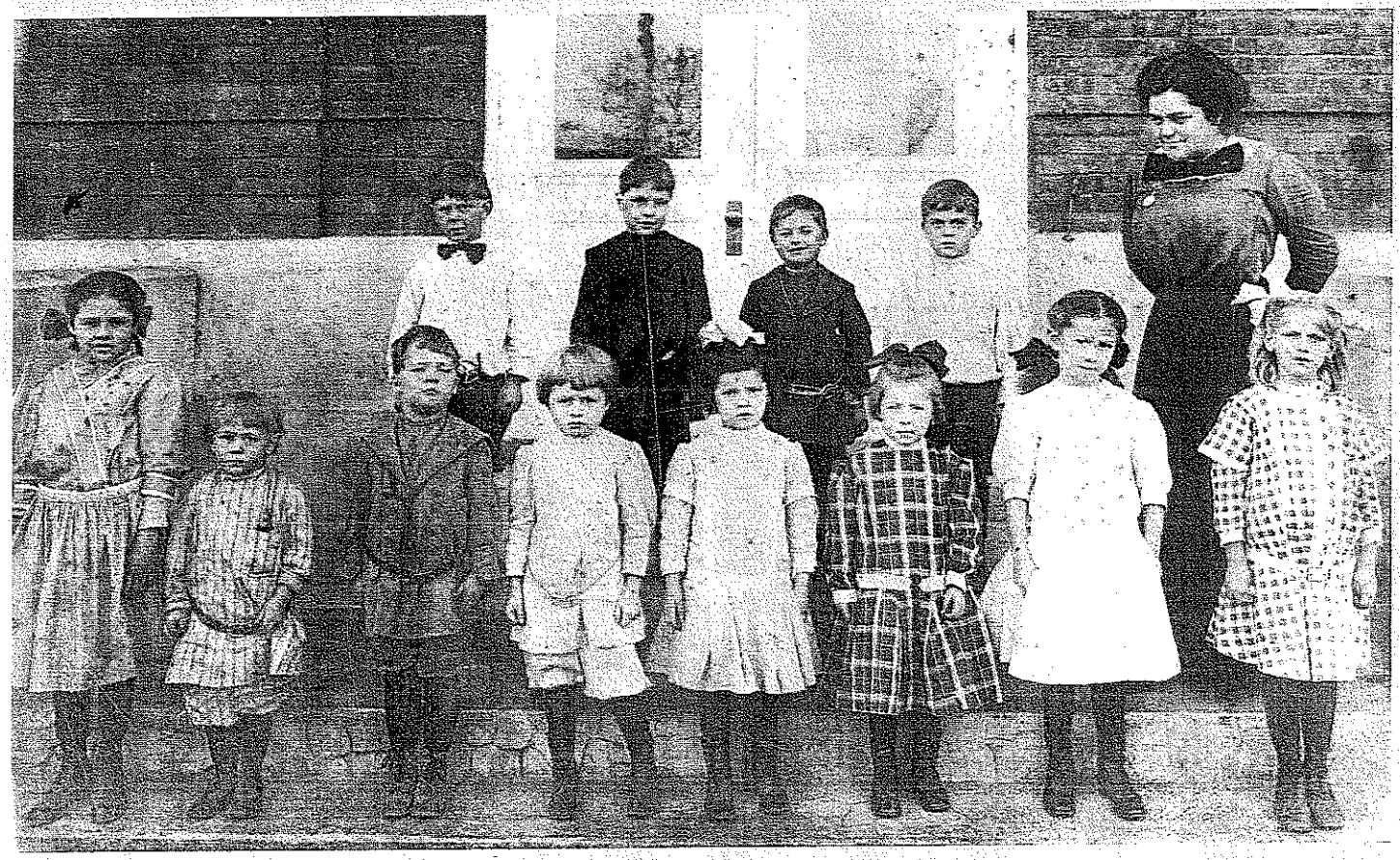
Note: Every attempt has been made to verify the accuracy of the information contained in this book. Any errors or omissions are unintentional.



1996 - First School in New Hyde Park.
New Hyde Park Road



1927 - New Hyde Park Public Grade School.
New Hyde Park Road



1907-1910: District 5 New Hyde Park Public School.
1420 Jericho Turnpike
Photo: Robert Marcella